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(54) METABOLICALLY ENGINEERED CELLS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF RESVERATROL OR AN OLIGOMERIC OR GLYCOSIDICALLY-BOUND DERIVATIVE THEREOF

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(57) ABSTRACT

A recombinant micro-organism producing resveratrol by a pathway in which phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) produces trans-cinnamic acid from phenylalanine, cinnamate 4-hydroxylase (C4H) produces 4-coumaric acid from said trans-cinnamic acid, 4-coumarate-CoA ligase (4CL) produces 4-coumaroyl CoA from said 4-coumaric acid, and resveratrol synthase (VST) produces said resveratrol from said 4-coumaroyl CoA, or in which L-phenylalanine- or tyrosine-ammonia lyase (PAL/TAL) produces 4-coumaric acid, 4-coumarate-CoA ligase (4CL) produces 4-coumaroyl CoA from said 4-coumaric acid, and resveratrol synthase (VST) produces said resveratrol from said 4-coumaroyl CoA. The micro-organism may be a yeast, fungus or bacterium including Saccharomyces cerevisiae, E. coli, Lactococcus lactis, Aspergillus niger, or Aspergillus oryzae.

11 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

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Aug. 2, 2016

Figure 1

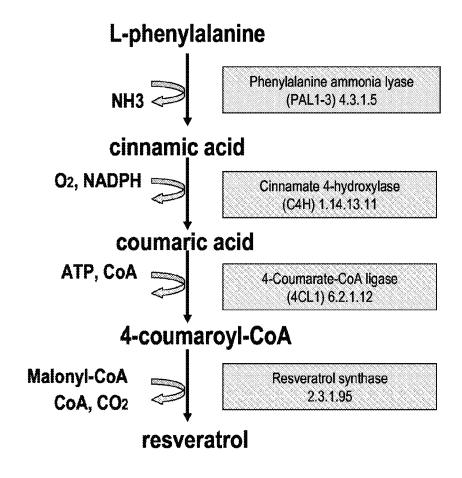


Figure 2

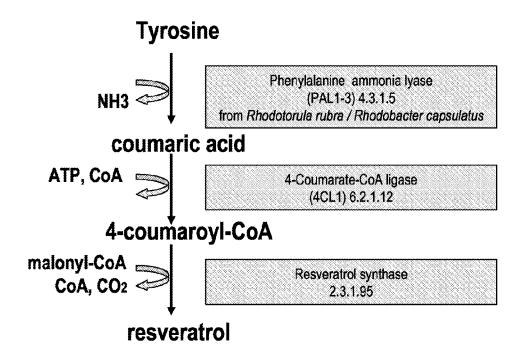
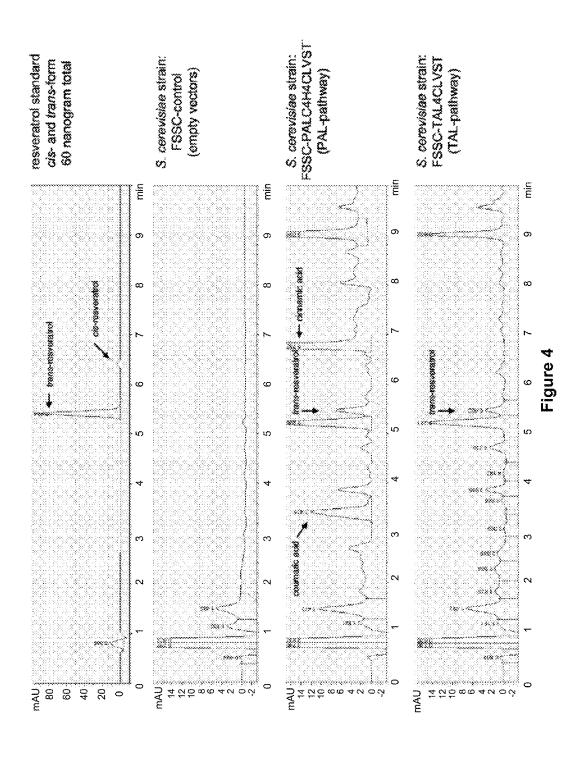
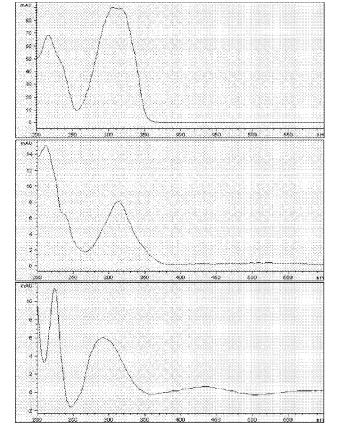


Figure 3





uv-spectrum of pure trans-resveratrol 60 nanogram total

uv-spectrum of *trans*-resveratrol in extract of *S. cerevisiae* strain FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST (PAL-pathway)

uv-spectrum of *trans*-resveratrol in extract of *S. cerevisiae* strain FSSC-TAL4CLVST (TAL-pathway)

Figure 5

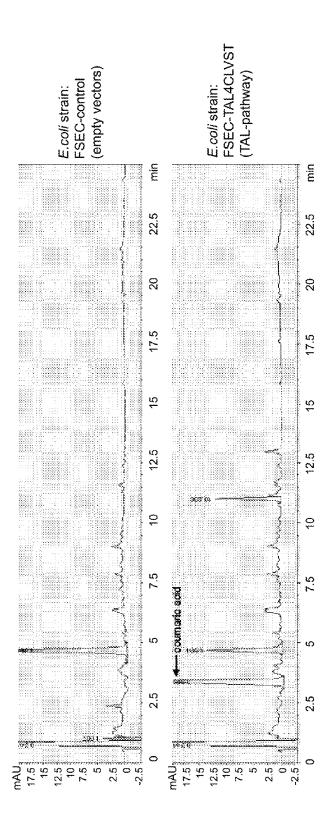
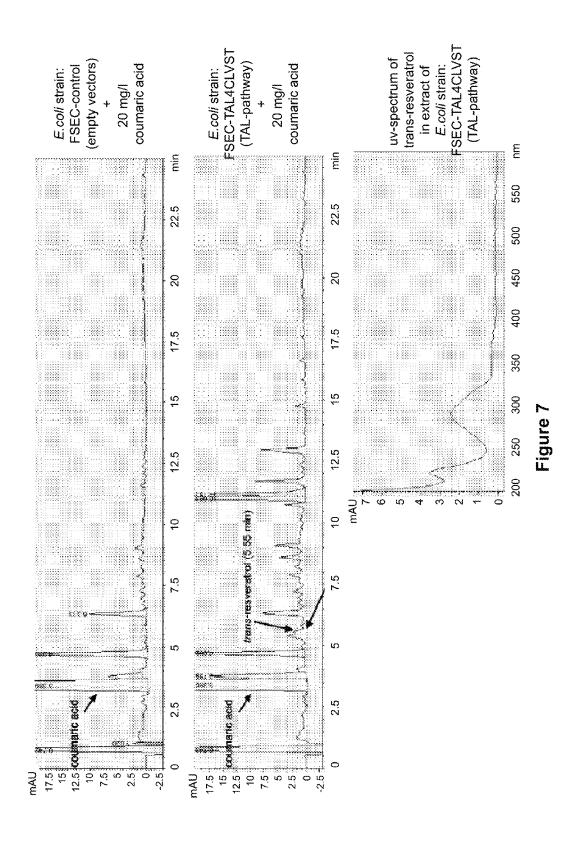


Figure 6



METABOLICALLY ENGINEERED CELLS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF RESVERATROL OR AN OLIGOMERIC OR GLYCOSIDICALLY-BOUND DERIVATIVE THEREOF

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a U.S. divisional application of U.S. application Ser. No. 11/816,847, filed on May 27, 2008 (now U.S. Pat. No. 8,895,287), which was the U.S. national phase of International Application No. PCT/EP2006/060154 filed on Feb. 21, 2006, which claims priority to Great Britain Patent Application No. 0503657.9 filed on Feb. 22, 2005, the 15 disclosures of each of which are explicitly incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates generally to the production of the polyphenol resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically bound derivative thereof such as its β -glucoside piceid using microbial cells. Furthermore, it relates to the use of naturally occurring or recombinant micro-organisms that produce resveratrol or such a derivative for production of food, feed and beverages.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Production of chemicals from micro-organisms has been an important application of biotechnology. Typically, the steps in developing such a bio-production method may include 1) selection of a proper micro-organism host, 2) elimination of metabolic pathways leading to by-products, 3) 35 deregulation of desired pathways at both enzyme activity level and the transcriptional level, and 4) overexpression of appropriate enzymes in the desired pathways. In preferred aspect, the present invention has employed combinations of the steps above to redirect carbon flow from phenylalanine or 40 tyrosine through enzymes of the plant phenylpropanoid pathway which supplies the necessary precursor for the desired biosynthesis of resveratrol.

Resveratrol (or 3,4,5-trihydroxystilbene) is a phytophenol belonging to the group of stilbene phytoalexins, which are 45 low-molecular-mass secondary metabolites that constitute the active defence mechanism in plants in response to infections or other stress-related events. Stilbene phytoalexins contain the stilbene skeleton (trans-1,2-diphenylethylene) as their common basic structure: that may be supplemented by 30 addition of other groups as well (Hart and Shrimpton, 1979, Hart, 1981). Stilbenes have been found in certain trees (angiosperms, gymnosperms), but also in some herbaceous plants (in species of the Myrtaceae, Vitaceae and Leguminosae families). Said compounds are toxic to pests, especially to 55 fungi, bacteria and insects. Only few plants have the ability to synthesize stilbenes, or to produce them in an amount that provides them sufficient resistance to pests.

The synthesis of the basic stilbene skeleton is pursued by stilbene synthases. So far, two enzymes have been designated 60 as a stilbene synthase; pinosylvine synthase and resveratrol synthase. To date, the groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea*) resveratrol synthase has been characterised in most detail, such that most of the properties are known (Schoppner and Kindl, 1984). Substrates that are used by stilbene synthases are 65 malonyl-CoA, cinnamoyl-CoA or coumaroyl-CoA. These substances occur in every plant because they are used in the

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biosynthesis of other important plant constituents as well such as flavonoids, flower pigments and lipids.

Resveratrol (FIG. 1 trans-form) consists of two closely connected phenol rings and belongs therefore to the polyphenols. While present in other plants, such as eucalyptus, spruce, and lily, and in other foods such as mulberries and peanuts, resveratrol's most abundant natural sources are Vitis vinifera, -labrusca, and -muscadine (rotundifolia) grapes, which are used to make wines. The compound occurs in the vines, roots, seeds, and stalks, but its highest concentration is in the skin (Celotti et al., 1996), which contains 50-100 µg/g. (Jang et al. 1997). During red wine vinification the grape skins are included in the must, in contrast to white wine vinification, and therefore resveratrol is found in small quantities in red wine only. Resveratrol has, besides its antifungal properties, been recognized for its cardioprotective- and cancer chemopreventive activities; it acts as a phytoestrogen, an inhibitor of platelet aggregation (Kopp et al, 1998; Gehm et al 20 1997; Lobo et al 1995), and an antioxidant (Jang et al., 1997; Huang 1997). These properties explain the so-called French Paradox, i.e. the wine-drinking French have a low incidence of coronary heart disease despite a low-exercise, high-fat diet. Recently it has been shown that resveratrol can also activate the SIR2 gene in yeast and the analogous human gene SIRT1, which both play a key role in extending life span. Ever since, attention is very much focused on the life-span extending properties of resveratrol (Hall, 2003, Couzin, 2004).

American health associations, such as the Life Extension Foundation, are promoting the vast beneficial effects of this drug, and thereby propelling the ideal conditions for a successful commercialisation. Present production processes rely mostly upon extraction of resveratrol, either from the skin of grape berries, or from Knot weed. This is a labour intensive process and generates low yield which, therefore, prompts an incentive for the development of novel, more efficient and high-yielding production processes.

In plants, the phenylpropanoid pathway is responsible for the synthesis of a wide variety of secondary metabolic compounds, including lignins, salicylates, coumarins, hydroxycinnamic amides, pigments, flavonoids and phytoalexins. Indeed formation of resveratrol in plants proceeds through the phenylpropanoid pathway. The amino acid L-phenylalanine is converted into trans-cinnamic acid through the nonoxidative deamination by L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) (FIG. 2). Next, trans-cinnamic acid is hydroxylated at the para-position to 4-coumaric acid (4-hydroxycinnamic acid) by cinnamate-4-hydroxylase (C4H), a cytochrome P450 monooxygenase enzyme, in conjunction with NADPH: cytochrome P450 reductase (CPR). The 4-coumaric acid, is subsequently activated to 4-coumaroyl-CoA by the action of 4-coumarate-CoA ligase (4CL). Finally, resveratrol synthase (VST) catalyses the condensation of a phenylpropane unit of 4-coumaroyl-CoA with malonyl CoA, resulting in formation of resveratrol.

Recently, a yeast was disclosed that could produce resveratrol from 4-coumaric acid that is found in small quantities in grape must (Becker et al. 2003). The production of 4-coumaroyl-CoA, and concomitant resveratrol, in laboratory strains of *S. cerevisiae*, was achieved by co-expressing a heterologous coenzyme-A ligase gene, from hybrid poplar, together with the grapevine resveratrol synthase gene (vst1). The other substrate for resveratrol synthase, malonyl-CoA, is already endogenously produced in yeast and is involved in de novo fatty-acid biosynthesis. The study showed that cells of *S. cerevisiae* could produce minute amounts of resveratrol,

either in the free form or in the glucoside-bound form, when cultured in synthetic media that was supplemented with 4-coumaric acid.

However, said yeast would not be suitable for a commercial application because it suffers from low resveratrol yield, and 5 requires addition of 4-coumaric acid, which is only present in few industrial media. In order to facilitate and broaden the application of resveratrol as both a pharmaceutical and neutraceutical, it is therefore highly desirable to obtain a yeast that can produce resveratrol directly from glucose, without 10 addition of 4-coumaric acid.

A recent study (Ro and Douglas, 2004) describes the reconstitution of the entry point of the phenylpropanoid pathway in S. cerevisiae by introducing PAL, C4H and CPR from Poplar. The purpose was to evaluate whether multienzyme 15 complexes (MECs) containing PAL and C4H are functionally important at this entry point into phenylpropanoid metabolism. By feeding the recombinant yeast with [3H]-phenylalanine it was found that the majority of metabolized [3H]phenylalanine was incorporated into 4-[3H]-coumaric acid, 20 and that phenylalanine metabolism was highly reduced by inhibiting C4H activity. Moreover, PAL-alone expressers metabolized very little phenylalanine into cinnamic acid. When feeding [3H]-phenylalanine and [14C]-trans-cinnamic acid simultaneously to the triple expressers, no evidence was 25 found for channeling of the endogenously synthesized [3H]trans-cinnamic acid into 4-coumaric acid. Therefore, efficient carbon flux from phenylalanine to 4-coumaric acid via reactions catalyzed by PAL and C4H does not appear to require channeling through a MEC in yeast, and sheer biochemical 30 coupling of PAL and C4H seems to be sufficient to drive carbon flux into the phenylpropanoid pathway. In yet another study (Hwang et al., 2003) production of plant-specific flavanones by Escherichia coli was achieved through expression of an artificial gene cluster that contained three genes of a 35 phenyl propanoid pathway of various heterologous origins; PAL from the yeast Rhodotorula rubra, 4CL from the actinomycete Streptomyces coelicolor, and chalcone synthase (CHS) from the licorice plant Glycyrrhiza echinata. These pathways bypassed C4H, because the bacterial 4CL enzyme 40 ligated coenzyme A to both trans-cinnamic acid and 4-coumaric acid. In addition, the PAL from Rhodotorula rubra uses both phenylalanine and tyrosine as the substrates. Therefore, E. coli cells containing the gene clusters and grown on glucose, produced small amounts of two flavanones, pinocem- 45 brin (0.29 g/l) from phenylalanine and naringenin (0.17 g/l) from tyrosine. In addition, large amounts of their precursors, 4-coumaric acid and trans-cinnamic acid (0.47 and 1.23 mg/liter respectively), were acumulated. Moreover, the yields of these compounds could be increased by addition of phe- 50 nylalanine and tyrosine.

Whereas the enzyme from dicotylic plants utilizes only phenylalanine efficiently, several studies indicated that PAL from monocotylic plants, and some micro-organisms, utilizes tyrosine as well (Rösler et al., 1997). In such reactions the 55 enzyme activity is designated tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL, FIG. 3). Conversion of tyrosine by TAL results in the direct formation of 4-coumaric acid without the intermediacy of C4H and CPR. Mostly both activities reside on the same polypeptide and have very similar catalytic efficiencies, in 60 spite of large differences in Km and turnover number. However, most PAL/TAL enzymes from plants prefer phenylalanine rather than tyrosine. The level of TAL activity is mostly lower than PAL activity, but the magnitude of this difference varies over a wide range. For example, the parsley enzyme has 65 a Km for phenylalanine of 15-25 µM and for tyrosine 2.0-8.0 mM with turnover numbers $22 \,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ and $0.3 \,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$ respectively. In

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contrast, the maize enzyme has a Km for phenylalanine only 15-fold higher than for tyrosine, and turnover numbers about 10-fold higher. Moreover, in the red yeasts, *Rhodotorula glutinis (Rhodosporidium toruloides)* and *-rubra*, the TAL catalytic activity is close to the PAL catalytic activity with a ratio of TAL/PAL of approximately 0.58. It is believed that the PAL enzyme in these yeasts degrades phenylalanine as a catabolic function and the trans-cinnamic acid formed is converted to benzoate and other cellular materials, whereas in plants it is thought to be merely a regulatory enzyme in the biosynthesis of lignin, isoflavonoids and other phenylpropanoids.

Recently, an open reading frame was found in the bacterium Rhodobacter capsulatus that encodes a hypothetical biosynthetic tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL) that is involved in the biosynthesis of the chromophore of the photoactive vellow protein (Kyndt et al., 2002). This was the first time that a PAL-homologous gene was found in bacteria. The TAL gene was isolated and overproduced in Escherichia coli. The Km and kcat values for the conversion of tyrosine to 4-coumaric acid were 15.6 uM and 27.7 s⁻¹ respectively, and for conversion of L-phenylalanine to trans-cinnamic acid were 1277 μM and 15.1 s⁻¹ respectively. As a consequence of the smaller Km and a slightly larger kcat, the enzyme shows a strong preference for tyrosine over L-phenylalanine, with a catalytic efficiency (Km/kcat) for tyrosine of approximately 150-fold larger than for phenylalanine. The kinetic studies established that tyrosine, and not L-phenylalanine, is the natural substrate of the enzyme under physiological conditions. Very recently a study described the heterologous coexpression of phenylalanine ammonia lyase, cinnamate-4-hydroxylase, 4-coumarate-Coa-ligase and chalcone synthase, for the production of flavonoids in E. coli (Watts et al., 2004). The simultaneous expression of all four genes, however, was not successful because of a nonfunctional cinnamate-4-hydroxylase. The substitution of phenylalanine ammonia lyase and cinnamate-4-hydroxylase by a new tyrosine ammonia lyase that was cloned from Rhodobacter sphaeroides, could, however, solved the problem and led to high-level production of the flavonone naringenin. Furthermore, said tyrosine ammonia lyase from Rhodobacter sphaeroides is also used for heterologous production of 4-coumaric acid (i.e. para-hydroxycinnamic acid) in Escherichia coli (US-A-2004059103). Evenmore, further methods for development of a biocatalyst for conversion of glucose into 4-coumaric acid are described. US-A-2004023357 discloses a tyrosine ammonia lyase from the yeast Trichosporon cutaneum for the production of coumaric acid in Escherichia coli and Saccharomyces cerevisiae. US-A-2001053847 describes the incorporation of the wild type PAL from the yeast Rhodotorula glutinis into E. coli, underlining the ability of the wildtype PAL to convert tyrosine directly to 4-coumaric acid. Moreover, there is also exemplification of incorporation of the wildtype PAL from the yeast Rhodotorula glutinis, plus a plant C4H and CPR into E. coli and S. cerevisiae. Also described is the development of a biocatalyst through mutagenesis of the wild type yeast PAL Rhodotorula glutinis with enhanced TAL activity (US-A-6521748). Neither of the aforementioned patents claim the incorporation of 4CL and VST for the production of resvera-

Recently, evidence was shown that the filamentous fungi *A. oryzae* contained the enzyme chalcone synthase (CHS) that is normally involved in the biosynthesis of flavonoids, such as naringenin, in plants (Seshime et al., 2005). Indeed it was also shown that *A. oryzae* contained the major set of genes responsible for phenylpropanoid-flavonoid metabolism, i.e PAL, C4H and 4CL. However, there is no evidence that *A. oryzae* contained a stilbene synthase such as resveratrol synthase.

The present invention now provides a micro-organism having an operative metabolic pathway comprising at least one enzyme activity, said pathway producing 4-coumaric acid and producing resveratrol therefrom or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof. Such a micro-organism may be naturally occurring and may be isolated by suitable screening procedures, but more preferably is genetically engineered.

Preferably, said resveratrol or derivative is produced in a reaction catalysed by an enzyme in which endogenous malonyl-CoA is a substrate, and preferably said resveratrol is produced from 4-coumaroyl-CoA.

Said resveratrol or derivative is preferably produced from 4-coumaroyl-CoA by a resveratrol synthase which is preferably expressed in said micro-organism from nucleic acid coding for said enzyme which is not native to the microorganism.

Generally herein, unless the context implies otherwise, references to resveratrol include reference to oligomeric or 20 glycosidically bound derivatives thereof, including particularly piceid.

Thus, in certain preferred embodiments, said resveratrol synthase is a resveratrol synthase (EC 2.3.1.95) from a plant belonging to the genus of *Arachis*, e.g. *A. glabatra*, *A.* ²⁵ *hypogaea*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Rheum*, e.g. *R. tataricum*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Vitus*, e.g. *V. labrusca*, *V. riparaia*, *V. vinifera*, or any one of the genera *Pinus*, *Piceea*, *Lilium*, *Eucalyptus*, *Parthenocissus*, *Cissus*, *Calochortus*, *Polygonum*, *Gnetum*, *Artocarpus*, *Nothofagus*, *Phoenix*, *Festuca*, *Carex*, *Veratrum*, *Bauhinia* or *Pterolohium*.

Preferably, said 4-coumaric acid is produced from transcinnamic acid, suitably by an enzyme in a reaction catalysed by said enzyme in which oxygen is a substrate, NADH or NADPH is a cofactor and NAD+ or NADP+ is a product.

Thus, said 4-coumaric acid may be produced from transcinnamic acid by a cinnamate 4-hydroxylase, which preferably is expressed in said micro-organism from nucleic acid 40 coding for said enzyme which is not native to the micro-organism.

In certain preferred embodiments, including those referred to in the paragraphs above, said cinnamate-4-hydroxylase is a cinnamate-4-hydroxylase (EC 1.14.13.11) from a plant or a 45 micro-organism. The plant may belong to the genus of Arabidopsis, e.g. A. thaliana, a plant belonging to the genus of Citrus, e.g. C. sinensis, C. xparadisi, a plant belonging to the genus of Phaseolus, e.g. P. vulgaris, a plant belonging to the genus of Pinus, e.g. P. taeda, a plant belonging to the genus of 50 Populus, e.g. P. deltoides, P. tremuloides, P. trichocarpa, a plant belonging to the genus of Solanum, e.g. S. tuberosum, a plant belonging to the genus of Vitus, e.g. Vitus vinifera, a plant belonging to the genus of Zea, e.g. Z. mays, or other plant genera e.g. Ammi, Avicennia, Camellia, Camptotheca, 55 Catharanthus, Glycine, Helianthus, Lotus, Mesembryanthemum, Physcomitrella, Ruta, Saccharum, Vigna. The microorganism might be a fungus belonging to the genus Aspergillus, e.g. A. orvzae.

Preferably, said 4-coumaric acid is produced from tyrosine 60 in a reaction catalysed by an enzyme in which ammonia is produced and suitably, said 4-coumaric acid is produced from tyrosine by a L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase or a tyrosine ammonia lyase, e.g. tyrosine ammonia lyase (EC 4.3.1.5) from yeast or bacteria. Suitably, the tyrosine ammonia lyase is 65 from the yeast *Rhodotorula rubra* or from the bacterium *Rhodobacter capsulatus*.

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Optionally, said tyrosine ammonia lyase is expressed in said micro-organism from nucleic acid coding for said enzyme which is not native to the micro-organism.

Alternatively, said trans-cinnamic acid may be produced from L-phenylalanine in a reaction catalysed by an enzyme in which ammonia is produced and suitably said trans-cinnamic acid is formed from L-phenylalanine by a phenylalanine ammonia lyase.

In certain preferred embodiments, said L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase is a L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase (EC 4.3.1.5) from a plant or a micro-organism. The plant may belong to the genus of Arabidopsis, e.g. A. thaliana, a plant belonging to the genus of Brassica, e.g. B. napus, B. rapa, a plant belonging to the genus of Citrus, e.g. C. reticulata, C. clementinus, C. limon, a plant belonging to the genus of Phaseolus, e.g. P. coccineus, P. vulgaris, a plant belonging to the genus of Pinus, e.g. P. banksiana, P. monticola, P. pinaster, P. sylvestris, P. taeda, a plant belonging to the genus of Populus, e.g. P. balsamifera, P. deltoides, P. Canadensis, P. kitakamiensis, P. tremuloides, a plant belonging to the genus of Solanum, e.g. S. tuberosum, a plant belonging to the genus of Prunus, e.g. P. avium, P. persica, a plant belonging to the genus of Vitus, e.g. Vitus vinifera, a plant belonging to the genus of Zea, e.g. Z. mays or other plant genera e.g. Agastache, Ananas, Asparagus, Bromheadia, Bambusa, Beta, Betula, Cucumis, Camellia, Capsicum, Cassia, Catharanthus, Cicer, Citrullus, Coffea, Cucurbita, Cynodon, Daucus, Dendrobium, Dianthus, Digitalis, Dioscorea, Eucalyptus, Gallus, Ginkgo, Glycine, Hordeum, Helianthus, Ipomoea, Lactuca, Lithospermum, Lotus, Lycopersicon, Medicago, Malus, Manihot, Medicago, Mesembryanthemum, Nicotiana, Olea, Oryza, Pisum, Persea, Petroselinum, Phalaenopsis, Phyllostachys, Physcomitrella, Picea, Pyrus, Quercus, Raphanus, Rehmannia, Rubus, Sorghum, Sphenostylis, Stellaria, Stylosanthes, Triticum, Trifolium, Triticum, Vaccinium, Vigna, Zinnia. The micro-organism might be a fungus belonging to the genus Agaricus, e.g. A. bisporus, a fungus belonging to the genus Aspergillus, e.g. A. oryzae, A. nidulans, A. fumigatus, a fungus belonging to the genus Ustilago, e.g. U. maydis, a bacterium belonging to the genus Rhodobacter, e.g. R. capsulatus, a yeast belonging to the genus Rhodotorula, e.g. R. rubra.

Suitably, said L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase is expressed in said micro-organism from nucleic acid coding for said enzyme which is not native to the micro-organism.

Preferably, 4-coumaroyl-CoA is formed in a reaction catalysed by an enzyme in which ATP and CoA are substrates and ADP is a product and suitably 4-coumaroyl-CoA is formed in a reaction catalysed by a 4-coumarate-CoA ligase.

Said 4-coumarate-CoA ligase may be a 4-coumarate-CoA ligase (EC 6.2.1.12) from a plant, a micro-organism or a nematode. The plant may belong to the genus of *Abies*, e.g. A. beshanzuensis, B. firma, B. holophylla, a plant belonging to the genus of Arabidopsis, e.g. A. thaliana, a plant belonging to the genus of Brassica, e.g. B. napus, B. rapa, B. oleracea, a plant belonging to the genus of Citrus, e.g. C. sinensis, a plant belonging to the genus of Larix, e.g. L. decidua, L. gmelinii, L. griffithiana, L. himalaica, L. kaempferi, L. laricina, L. mastersiana, L. occidentalis, L. potaninii, L. sibirica, L. speciosa, a plant belonging to the genus of Phaseolus, e.g. P. acutifolius, P. coccineus, a plant belonging to the genus of Pinus, e.g. P. armandii P. banksiana, P. pinaster, a plant belonging to the genus of Populus, e.g. P. balsamifera, P. tomentosa, P. tremuloides, a plant belonging to the genus of Solanum, e.g. S. tuberosum, a plant belonging to the genus of Vitus, e.g. Vitus vinifera, a plant belonging to the genus of Zea, e.g. Z. mays, or other plant genera e.g.

Agastache, Amorpha, Cathaya, Cedrus, Crocus, Festuca, Glycine, Juglans, Keteleeria, Lithospermum, Lolium, Lotus, Lycopersicon, Malus, Medicago, Mesembryanthemum, Nicotiana, Nothotsuga, Oryza, Pelargonium, Petroselinum, Physcomitrella, Picea, Prunus, Pseudolarix, Pseudotsuga, Rosa, 5 Rubus, Ryza, Saccharum, Suaeda, Thellungiella, Triticum, Tsuga. The micro-organism might be a filamentous fungi belonging to the genus Aspergillus, e.g. A. flavus, A. nidulans, A. oryzae, A. fumigatus, a filamentous fungus belonging to the genus Neurospora, e.g. N. crassa, a fungus belonging to the genus Yarrowia, e.g. Y. lipolytica, a fungus belonging to the genus of Mycosphaerella, e.g. M. graminicola, a bacterium belonging to the genus of Mycobacterium, e.g. M. bovis, M. leprae, M. tuberculosis, a bacterium belonging to the genus of Neisseria, e.g. N. meningitidis, a bacterium belonging to the genus of Streptomyces, e.g. S. coelicolor, a bacterium belonging to the genus of Rhodobacter, e.g. R. capsulatus, a nematode belonging to the genus Ancylostoma, e.g. A. ceylanicum, a nematode belonging to the genus Caenorhabditis, e.g. C. elegans, a nematode belonging to the genus Haemonchus, e.g. H. contortus, a nematode belonging to the genus Lumbricus, e.g. L. rubellus, a nematode belonging to the genus Meloidogyne, e.g. M. hapla, a nematode belonging to the genus Strongyloidus, e.g. S. rattii, S. stercoralis, a nematode belonging to the genus Pristionchus, e.g. P. pacificus.

Optionally, a NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase (CPR) ²⁵ has been recombinantly introduced into said micro-organism. This may be a plant CPR introduced into a non-plant micro-organism. Alternatively, a native NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase (CPR) has been overexpressed in said micro-organism.

In certain preferred embodiments, including those referred to in the paragraphs above, said NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase is a NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase is a NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase (EC 1.6.2.4) from a plant belonging to the genus of *Arabidopsis*, e.g. *A. thaliana*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Citrus*, e.g. *C. sinensis*, *C.xparadisi*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Phaseolus*, e.g. *P. vulgaris*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Pinus*, e.g. *P. taeda*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Populus*, e.g. *P. deltoides*, *P. tremuloides*, *P. trichocarpa*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Solanum*, e.g. *S. tuberosum*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Vitus*, e.g. *Vitus vinifera*, a plant belonging to the genus of *Zea*, e.g. *Z. mays*, or other plant genera e.g. *Ammi*, *Avicennia*, *Camellia*, *Camptotheca*, *Catharanthus*, *Glycine*, *Helianthus*, *Lotus*, *Mesembryanthemum*, *Physcomitrella*, *Ruta*, *Saccharum*, *Vigna*.

Whilst the micro-organism may be naturally occurring, preferably at least one copy of at least one genetic sequence encoding a respective enzyme in said metabolic pathway has been recombinantly introduced into said micro-organism.

Additionally or alternatively to introducing coding sequences coding for a said enzyme, one may provide one or more expression signals, such as promoter sequences, not natively associated with said coding sequence in said organism. Thus, optionally, at least one copy of a genetic sequence encoding a tyrosine ammonia lyase is operatively linked to an expression signal not natively associated with said genetic sequence in said organism, and/or at least one copy of a genetic sequence encoding a L-phenylalanine ammonia lyase is operatively linked to an expression signal not natively associated with said genetic sequence in said organism.

Optionally, at least one copy of a genetic sequence encoding cinnamate 4-hydroxylase, whether native or not, is operatively linked to an expression signal not natively associated with said genetic sequence in said organism.

Optionally, at least one copy of a genetic sequence encoding a 4-coumarate-CoA ligase, whether native or not, is operatively linked to an expression signal not natively associated with said genetic sequence in said organism.

Optionally, at least one copy of a genetic sequence encoding a resveratrol synthase, whether native or not, is opera-

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tively linked to an expression signal not natively associated with said genetic sequence in said organism.

Expression signals include nucleotide sequences located upstream (5' non-coding sequences), within, or downstream (3' non-coding sequences) of a coding sequence, and which influence the transcription, RNA processing or stability, or translation of the associated coding sequence. Such sequences may include promoters, translation leader sequences, introns, and polyadenylation recognition sequences.

În certain aspects the invention provides a metabolically engineered micro-organism having an operative metabolic pathway in which a first metabolite is transformed into a second metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a first enzyme, said reaction step producing ammonia, and in which said second metabolite is transformed into a third metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a second enzyme, in which oxygen is a substrate, NADPH or NADH is a cofactor and NADP+ or NAD+ is a product, and in which said third metabolite is transformed into a fourth metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a third enzyme in which ATP and CoA is a substrate, and ADP is a product, and in which said fourth metabolite is transformed into a fifth metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a fourth enzyme in which endogenous malonyl-CoA is a substrate.

The present invention also provides a metabolically engineered micro-organism having an operative metabolic pathway in which a first metabolite is transformed into a said third metabolite catalysed by a first enzyme, said reaction step producing ammonia, without the involvement of said second enzyme, and in which said third metabolite is transformed into a said fourth metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a said third enzyme in which ATP and CoA is a substrate, and ADP is a product, and in which said fourth metabolite is transformed into a said fifth metabolite in a reaction catalysed by a said fourth enzyme in which endogenous malonyl-CoA is a substrate.

The micro-organisms described above include ones containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding phenylalanine ammonia lyase operatively associated with an expression signal, and containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding cinnamate-4-hydroxylase operatively associated with an expression signal, and containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding 4-coumarate-CoA-ligase operatively associated with an expression signal, and containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding resveratrol synthase operatively associated with an expression signal.

They include also ones lacking cinnamate-4-hydroxylase activity, and containing one or more copies of a heterologous DNA sequence encoding tyrosine ammonia lyase operatively associated with an expression signal, and containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding 4-coumarate-CoA-ligase operatively associated with an expression signal, and containing one or more copies of an heterologous DNA sequence encoding resveratrol synthase operatively associated with an expression signal.

In the present context the term "micro-organism" relates to microscopic organisms, including bacteria, microscopic fungi, including yeast.

More specifically, the micro-organism may be a fungus, and more specifically a filamentous fungus belonging to the genus of Aspergillus, e.g. A. niger, A. awamori, A. oryzae, A. nidulans, a yeast belonging to the genus of Saccharomyces, e.g. S. cerevisiae, S. kluyveri, S. bayanus, S. exiguus, S. sevazzi, S. uvarum, a yeast belonging to the genus Kluyveromyces, e.g. K. lactis K. marxianus var. marxianus, K. thermotolerans, a yeast belonging to the genus Candida, e.g. C. utilis C. tropicalis, C. albicans, C. lipolytica, C. versatilis, a yeast belonging to the genus Pichia, e.g. P. stipidis, P. pas-

toris, P. sorbitophila, or other yeast genera, e.g. Cryptococcus, Debaromyces, Hansenula, Pichia, Yarrowia, Zygosaccharomyces or Schizosaccharomyces. Concerning other micro-organisms a non-exhaustive list of suitable filamentous fungi is supplied: a species belonging to the genus Penicillium, Rhizopus, Fusarium, Fusidium, Gibberella, Mucor, Mortierella, Trichoderma.

Concerning bacteria a non-exhaustive list of suitable bacteria is given as follows: a species belonging to the genus *Bacillus*, a species belonging to the genus *Escherichia*, a species belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus*, a species belonging to the genus *Lactococcus*, a species belonging to the genus *Corynebacterium*, a species belonging to the genus *Acetobacter*, a species belonging to the genus *Acinetobacter*, a species belonging to the genus *Pseudomonas*, etc.

The preferred micro-organisms of the invention may be S. cerevisiae, A. niger, A. oryzae, E. coli, L. lactis or B. subtilis.

The constructed and engineered micro-organism can be cultivated using commonly known processes, including 20 on 50 g/l glucose. chemostat, batch, fed-batch cultivations, etc.

E. coli strains FSE on 50 g/l glucose. FIG. 7 shows the first strains for 50 g/l glucose.

Thus, the invention includes a method for producing resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof comprising contacting a non-plant cell with a carbon substrate in the substantial absence of an external source of 4-coumaric acid, said cell having the capacity to produce resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof under the conditions, in which the micro-organism may be selected from the group consisting of fungi and bacteria, especially yeast.

Said carbon substrate is optionally selected from the group of fermentable carbon substrates consisting of monosaccharides, oligosaccharides and polysaccharides, e.g. glucose, fructose, galactose, xylose, arabinose, mannose, sucrose, lactose, erythrose, threose, and/or ribose. Said carbon substrate 35 may additionally or alternatively be selected from the group of non-fermentable carbon substrates including ethanol, acetate, glycerol, and/or lactate. Said non-fermentable carbon substrate may additionally or alternatively be selected from the group of amino acids and may be phenylalanine and/or 40 tyrosine.

In an alternative aspect, the invention includes a method for producing resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof through heterologous expression of nucleotide sequences encoding phenylalanine ammonia 45 lyase, cinnamate 4-hydroxylase, 4-coumarate-CoA ligase and resveratrol synthase and also a method for producing resveratrol through heterologous expression of nucleotide sequences encoding tyrosine ammonia lyase, 4-coumarate-CoA ligase and resveratrol synthase.

Resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof so produced may be used as a nutraceutical in a dairy product or a beverage such as beer.

Resveratrol produced according to the invention may be cis-resveratrol or trans-resveratrol, but it is to be expected that the trans-form will normally predominate.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

To assist in the ready understanding of the above description of the invention reference has been made to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 shows the chemical structure of trans-resveratrol; FIG. 2 shows the phenylpropanoid pathway utilising phenylalanine ammonia lyase acting on L-phenylalanine; and

FIG. 3 shows the alternative pathway utilising phenylalanine ammonia lyase acting on L-tyrosine.

FIG. 4 shows the HPLC-chromatograms of extracts of *S. cerevisiae* strains FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST, FSSC-TAL4CLVST, grown on 100 g/l galactose. A chromatogram of 60 nanogram of pure resveratrol is included.

FIG. 5 shows the UV absorption spectrum for pure transresveratrol and trans-resveratrol produced by *S. cerevisiae* strain FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST, grown on 100 g/l galactose.

FIG. **6** shows the HPLC-chromatograms of extracts from *E. coli* strains FSEC-TAL4CLVST and FSEC-control, grown on 50 g/l glucose.

FIG. 7 shows the HPLC-chromatograms of extracts from *E. coli* strains FSEC-TAL4CLVST and FSEC-control, grown on 50 g/l glucose with addition of 20 mg/l coumaric acid. The UV absorption spectrum for trans-resveratrol produced in strain FSEC-TAL4CLVST is included.

The invention will be further described and illustrated by the following non-limiting examples.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Isolation of Genes Encoding PAL, TAL, C4H, CPR, 4CL, and VST

Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL2) (Cochrane et al., 2004; SEQ ID NO: 1, 2), cinnamate 4-hydroxylase (C4H) (Mizutani et al., 1997; SEQ ID NO: 3, 4) and 4-coumarate: CoenzymeA ligase (4CL1) (Hamberger and Hahlbrock 2004; Ehlting et al., 1999; SEQ ID NO: 5, 6) were isolated via PCR from *A. thaliana* cDNA (BioCat, Heidelberg, Germany) using the primers in table 1. PAL2 and 4CL1 were chosen amongst several *A. thaliana* homologues due to favourable kinetic parameters towards cinnamic acid and coumaroyl-CoA, respectively (Cochrane et al., 2004; Hamberger and Hahlbrock 2004; Ehlting et al., 1999).

The coding sequence of resveratrol synthase (VST) from *Rheum tataricum* (Samappito et al., 2003; SEQ ID NO: 7, 8) and tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL) from *Rhodobacter capsulatus* (Kyndt et al., 2002; SEQ ID NO: 11, 12) were codon optimized for expression in *S. cerevisiae* using the online service backtranslation tool at www.entelechon.com, yielding sequence SEQ ID NO: 9, 10 and SEQ ID NO: 13, 14 respectively. Oligos for the synthetic gene assembly were constructed at MWG Biotech and the synthetic gene was assembled by PCR using a slightly modified method protocol of from Martin et al. (2003) described below.

TABLE 1

Primers and restriction sites for	the amp	lification of	genes
Primer for amplification of gene* (Restriction sites are underlined)	Gene	Restriction site: primer	Restriction site: vector
5'-CG <u>GAATTC</u> TCATGGATCAAATCGAAGCAATGTT	PAL2	EcoR1	EcoR1
5'-CG <u>ACTAGT</u> TTAGCAAATCGGAATCGGAGC	PAL2	Spe1	Spe1

TABLE 1-continued

Primers and restriction sites for t	he amp	lification of	qenes
Primer for amplification of gene* (Restriction sites are underlined)	Gene	Restriction site: primer	
5'-CG <u>CTCGAG</u> AT ATGGACCTCCTCTTGCTGGA	C4H	Xho1	Xho1
5'-CG <u>GGTACC</u> TTAACAGTTCCTTGGTTTCATAAC	C4H	Kpn1	Kpn1
5'-GC <u>TCTAGA</u> CCT ATGGCGCCACAAGAACAAGCAGTTT	4CL1	Xbal	Spe1
5'-GCGGATCCCCT TCACAATCCATTTGCTAGTTT TGCC	4CL1	BamH1	BglII
5'-CC GGATCCAAATGGCCCCAGAAGAGAGCAGG	VST	BamH1	BamE1
5'-CG CTCGAGTTAAGTGATCAATGGAACCGAAGACAG	VST	Xho1	Xho1
5'-CC <u>GAATTC</u> CCATGACCCTGCAATCTCAAACAGCTAAAG	TAL	EcoR1	EcoR1
5'-CC <u>ACTAGT</u> TTAAGCAGGTGGATCGGCAGCT	TAL	Spe1	Spe1
5'-CC <u>CTCGAG</u> ATCATGCCGTTTGGAATAGACAACACCGA	CPR1	Xho1	Xho1
5'-CC <u>AAGCTT</u> ATCGGGCTGATTACCAGACATCTTCTTG	CPR1	HindIII	HindIII
5'-CC <u>GGATCC</u> CCATGTCCTCTTCTTCTTCGTCAAC	AR2	Bamh1	Bamh1
5'-CC <u>CTCGAG</u> GTGAGTGTGTGGCTTCAATAGTTT CG	AR2	Xho1	Xho1

^{*}SEQ ID Nos 19-32

Primers from MWG for the assembly of the synthetic gene were dissolved in milliQ-water to a concentration of 100 pmole/μl. An aliquot of 5 μl of each primer was combined in a totalmix and then diluted 10-fold with milliQ water. The gene was assembled via PCR using 5 µl diluted totalmix per 50 μl as template for fusion DNA polymerase (Finnzymes). The PCR programme was as follows: Initial 98° C. for 30 s., 35 and then 30 cycles with 98° C. for 10 s., 40° C. for 1 min. and 72° C. at 1 min./1000 basepairs, and a final 72° C. for 5 min. From the resulting PCR reaction, 20 µl was purified on 1% agarose gel. The result was a PCR smear and the regions around the wanted size were cut out from agarose gel and 40 purified using the QiaQuick Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen). A final PCR with the outer primers (for TAL and VST) in table 1 rendered the required TAL and VST genes. Point mutations were corrected using either the Quickchange site directed mutagenesis II kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif.), or using PCR 45 from overlapping error free DNA stretches from several different E. coli subclones.

NADPH:Cytochrome P450 reductase (CPR) from *A. thaliana* (AR2) (Mizutani and Ohta, 1998; SEQ ID NO: 17, 50 18) and from *S. cerevisiae* (CPR1) (Aoyama et al., 1978; SEQ ID NO: 15, 16), were isolated from *A. thaliana* cDNA (BioCat, Heidelberg, Germany) and *S. cerevisae* genomic DNA, respectively, using the primers in table 1.

Example 2

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Expression of PAL

The gene encoding PAL, isolated as described in example 60 1, was reamplified by PCR using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing EcoR1 and Spe1 restriction sites (table 1). The amplified PAL PCR product was digested with EcoR1/Spe1 and ligated into EcoR1/Spe1 digested pESC-URA vector (Stratagene), resulting in vector pESC-URA-PAL. The sequence of the gene was verified by sequencing of two different clones.

Example 3

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Expression of PAL and C4H

The gene encoding C4H, isolated as described in example 1, was amplified by PCR using the forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing Xho1 and Kpn1 restriction sites. The amplified C4H PCR-product was digested with Xho1/Kpn1 and ligated into similarly digested pESC-URA-PAL vector. The resulting plasmid, pESC-URA-PAL-C4H, contained the genes encoding PAL and C4H under the control of the divergent GAL1/GAL10 promoter. The sequence of the gene encoding C4H was verified by sequencing of two different clones.

Example 4

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Expression of 4CL

The gene encoding 4CL was isolated as described in example 1. The amplified 4CL PCR-product was digested with Xba1/BamH1 and ligated into Spe1/BgIII digested pESC-TRP vector (Stratagene), resulting in vector pESC-TRP-4CL.

Two different clones of pESC-TRP-4CL were sequenced to verify the sequence of the cloned gene.

Example 5

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Expression of 4CL and

The gene encoding VST was isolated as described in example 1. The amplified synthetic VST gene was digested with BamH1/Xho1 and ligated into BamH1/Xho1 digested pESC-TRP-4CL (example 4). The resulting plasmid, pESC-TRP-4CL-VST, contained the genes encoding 4CL and VST under the control of the divergent GAL1/GAL10 promoter. The sequence of the gene encoding VST was verified by sequencing of two different clones of pESC-TRP-4CL-VST.

Example 6

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Expression of TAL

The gene encoding TAL was isolated as described in example 1. The amplified synthetic TAL gene was digested with EcoR1/Spe1 and ligated into EcoR1/Spe1-digested pESC-URA vector. The resulting plasmid, pESC-URA-TAL, contained the gene encoding for TAL under the control of the divergent GAL1/GAL10 promoter. The sequence was verified by sequencing of two different clones of pESC-URA-TAL.

Example 7

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Overexpression of *S. cer-* ¹⁵ *evisiae* Endogenous CPR

The gene encoding CPR from *S. cerevisiae* (CPR1) was isolated as described in example 1. The amplified CPR1 gene was digested with Xho1/HindIII and ligated into Xho1/HindIII-digested pESC-LEU vector (Stratagene), resulting in vector pESC-LEU-CPR1. The sequence was verified by sequencing of two different clones of pESC-LEU-CPR1.

Example 8

Construction of a Yeast Vector for Overexpression of *A. thaliana* CPR (AR2)

The gene encoding CPR from *A. thaliana* (AR2) was isolated as described in example 1. The amplified AR2 gene was digested with BamH1/Xho1 and ligated into BamH1/Xho1 ³⁰ digested pESC-LEU vector (Stratagene), resulting in vector pESC-LEU-AR2. The sequence was verified by sequencing of two different clones of pESC-LEU-AR2.

Example 9

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in the Yeast *S. cerevisiae* Using PAL, C4H, 4CL and VST

Yeast strains containing the appropriate genetic markers were transformed with the vectors described in examples 2, 3, 40 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, separately or in combination. The transformation of the yeast cell was conducted in accordance with methods known in the art, for instance, by using competent cells or by electroporation (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989). Transformants were selected on medium lacking uracil and/ 45 or tryptophan and streak purified on the same medium.

S. cerevisiae strain CEN.PK 113-5D (MATa ura3) was transformed separately with the vector pESC-URA-PAL (example 2), yielding the strain FSSC-PAL, and with pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3), resulting in the strain FSSC- 50 PALC4H. S. cerevisiae strain FS01267 (MATa trp1 ura3) was co-transformed with pESC-URA-PAL-C4H and pESC-TRP-4CL (example 4), and the transformed strain was named FSSC-PALC4H4CL. The same strain was also co-transformed with pESC-URA-PAL-C4H and pESC-TRP-4CL- 55 VST (example 5), resulting in the strain FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST.

Example 10

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in S. cerevisiae Using TAL, 4CL and VST

S. cerevisiae strain CEN.PK 113-5D (MATa ura3) was transformed separately with the vector pESC-URA-TAL (example 6), yielding the strain FSSC-TAL. S. cerevisiae strain 65 FS01267 (MATa trp1 ura3) was co-transformed with pESC-URA-TAL (example 6) and pESC-TRP-4CL (example 4),

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and the transformed strain was named FSSC-TAL4CL. The same strain was also co-transformed with pESC-URA-TAL and pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5), resulting in the strain FSSC-TAL4CLVST. Transformants were selected on medium lacking uracil and or tryptophan and streak purified on the same medium.

Example 11

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in *S. cerevisiae* with Overexpressed Endogenous CPR

S. cerevisiae strain FS01277 (MATa ura3 leu2 trp1) was co-transformed with vectors pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3), pESC-TRP-4CL (example 4), and pESC-LEU-CPR1 (example 7). The transformed strain was named FSSC-PALC4H4CLVSTCPR. Transformants were selected on medium lacking uracil and/or tryptophan and streak purified on the same medium.

Example 12

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in S. cerevisiae with Overexpressed A. thaliana CPR (AR2)

S. cerevisiae strain FS01277 (MATa ura3 leu2 trp1) was co-transformed with vectors pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3), pESC-TRP-4CL (example 4), and pESC-LEU-AR2 (example 8). The transformed strain was named FSSC-PALC4H4CLVSTAR2. Transformants were selected on medium lacking uracil and or tryptophan and streak purified on the same medium.

Example 13

35 Fermentation with Recombinant Yeast Strains in Shake Flasks

The recombinant yeast strains were inoculated from agar plates with a sterile inoculation loop and grown in 200 ml defined mineral medium (Verduyn et al, 1992) that contained vitamins, trace elements, 5 g/l glucose and 40 g/l or 100 g/l galactose. The 500 ml stoppered shake flasks were incubated for three days at 30° C. and 160 rpm.

Example 14

Extraction of Resveratrol

Cells were harvested by centrifugation 5000 g for 5 minutes. An aliquot of 50 ml of supernatant was extracted once with 20 ml ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate was freeze dried and the dry product redissolved in 0.7 ml methanol and filtered into HPLC vials.

The cell pellet from 200 ml medium was dissolved in 1 to 2 ml water and divided into 3 fastprep tubes and broken with glass beads. The crude extracts from the three tubes were pooled into 10 ml 100% methanol in a 50 ml sartorius tube and extracted on a rotary chamber for 48 hours in a dark cold room at 4° C. After 48 hours the cell debris was removed via centrifugation for 5 min. at 5000 g and the methanol was removed by freeze-drying overnight. The dried residue was redissolved in 1 ml phosphate-citrate buffer pH 5.4 and 10 units beta-glucosidase from almonds was added (Sigma) to release resveratrol from putatively glucoside-bound forms. The mixture was incubated for three hours at 37° C. and then extracted twice with 1 ml ethyl acetate. The combined ethyl acetate was freeze dried and the dry residue was redissolved in 0.7 ml methanol and filtered into HPLC vials.

Example 15

Analysis of Resveratrol

Thin Layer Chromatography

A method based upon thin layer chromatography that 5 enabled the quick separation of cinnamic, coumaric and resveratrol on the same TLC-plate was developed for quick screening analysis. An aliquot of 1 ml culture containing both cells and supernatant were extracted with 500 microliter ethyl acetate and centrifuged for 30 s. at 13000 rpm with a microcentrifuge. The ethyl acetate was dried and redissolved in methanol. The extracts were analyzed on Silica G plates (0.2 mm Alugram SIL G/UV₂₅₄, Macherey-Nagel) containing a fluorescent indicator. The mobile phase was a mixture of chloroform, ethyl acetate and formic acid (25:10:1).

For quantitative analysis of cinnamic acid, coumaric acid, and resveratrol, samples were subjected to separation by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) Agilent Series 1100 system (Hewlett Packard) prior to uv-diode-array 20 detection at λ =306 nm. A Phenomenex (Torrance, Calif., USA) Luna 3 micrometer C18 (100×2.00 mm) column was used at 40° C. As mobile phase a gradient of acetonitrile and milliq water (both containing 50 ppm trifluoroacetic acid) was used at a flow of 0.4 ml/min. The gradient profile was 25 linear from 15% acetonitrile to 100% acetonitrile over 20 min. The elution times were approximately 3.4 min. for coumaric acid, 5.5 min. for free trans-resveratrol and 6.8 min. for cinnamic acid.

Pure resveratrol standard was purchased from Cayman ³⁰ chemical company, whereas pure coumaric acid and cinnamic acid standards were purchased from and Sigma. Results

Strains FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST and FSSC-TAL4CLVST, were cultivated on 100 g/l galactose as described in example 13, and analyzed for their content of intracellular resveratrol according to example 14 and 15. Additionally, a control strain FSSC-control was included that contained the empty vectors pESC-URA and pESC-TRP only. The HPLC-analysis showed that strains FSSC-PALC4H4CLVST and FSSC-TAL4CLVST contained a component with a retention time of 5.5 min. that was identical to trans-resveratrol (FIG. 4). Said result was confirmed by the UV absorption spectra that were similar to the absorption spectrum of pure trans-resveratrol (FIG. 5) as well, with a λ_{max} of approximately 306 nm.

The results, therefore, demonstrated the presence of an active phenyl-propanoid pathway in *S. cerevisiae* that led to in vivo production of trans-resveratrol. The production of resveratrol can most likely be improved by cultivating the strains under well-defined growth conditions in batch- and continuous cultures, and/or optimizing the expression/activities of the individual enzymes.

Example 16

Construction of a Bacterial Vector for Expression of TAL in Escherichia coli

The gene encoding TAL, isolated as described in Example 1, was reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-TAL (example 6) using the forward primer 5'-CCG CTCGAG 60 CGG ATG ACC CTG CAA TCT CAA ACA GCT AAA G-3' SEQ ID NO 33 and the reverse primer 5'-GC GGATCC TTA AGC AGG TGG ATC GGC AGC T-3' SEQ ID NO 34 with 5' overhangs containing the restriction sites XhoI and BamHI, respectively. The introduction of restriction sites at the 5' and 65 3' ends of the gene allowed ligation of the restricted PCR product into a pET16b vector (Novagen), digested with XhoI

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and BamHI to yield pET16b-TAL. The pET16b vector contained both the ampicillin resistance gene, and the T7 promoter. Hence, above procedure resulted in a vector with an antibiotic selection marker that contained the gene encoding for TAL under the control of the T7 promoter. The sequence of the gene encoding TAL was verified by sequencing of one clone of pET16b-TAL.

Example 17

Construction of a Bacterial Vector for Expression of 4CL and VST in *Escherichia coli*

The gene encoding VST, isolated as described in example 1, was cut out with the restriction enzymes BamHI and XhoI from the digested plasmid pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5), which contains the genes encoding 4CL and VST. The VST gene was ligated into a pET26b vector (Novagen), containing the kanamycin resistance gene, digested with BamHI and SalI to yield pET26b-VST. The restriction enzymes XhoI and SalI have compatible ends, which enabled proper ligation. The pET26b vector contained both the kanamycin resistance gene, and the T7 promoter. Hence, above procedure resulted in a vector with an antibiotic selection marker that contained the gene encoding for VST under the control of the T7 promoter.

The gene encoding for 4CL, isolated as described in example 1, was reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-4CL-VST (example 5) using the forward primer 5'-TG CCATGG CA ATGGCGCCAC AAGAACAAGC AGTTT-3' SEQ ID NO 35 and the reverse primer 5'-GC GGATCC CCT TCA CAA TCC ATT TGC TAG TTT TGCC-3' SEQ ID NO 36 with 5' overhangs containing the restriction sites NcoI and BamHI, respectively. The introduction of restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allowed ligation of the restricted PCR product into a pET16b vector (Novagen) digested with NcoI and BamHI. The resulting plasmid, pET16b-4CL, contained the gene encoding for 4CL under the control of the T7 promoter. Both the T7 promoter and the gene encoding for 4CL were reamplified as one fragment by PCR from the plasmid pET16b-4CL using the forward primer 5'-TT GCG-GCCGC AAA TCT CGA TCC CGC GAA ATT AAT ACG-3' SEQ ID NO 37 and the reverse primer 5'-CG CTCGAG CCT TCA CAA TCC ATT TGC TAG TTT TGCC-3' SEQ ID NO 38 with 5' overhangs, containing the restriction sites NotI and XhoI, respectively. The introduction of restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the DNA fragment allowed ligation of the restricted PCR product into the plasmid pET26b-VST that was digested with NotI and XhoI before ligation. The resulting plasmid, pET26b-VST-4CL, contained the two genes 4CL and VST that each were under control of an individual T7 promoter.

Example 18

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in *Escherichia coli*, Using TAL, 4CL and VST

The transformation of the bacterial cell was conducted in accordance with methods known in the art, for instance, by using competent cells or by electroporation (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989). The *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) (Novagen) was co-transformed with the two vectors pET16b-TAL (example 16) and pET26b-VST-4CL (Example 17), resulting in strain FSEC-TAL4CLVST. In addition, *E. coli* strain BL21 (DE3) was co-transformed with the two empty vectors pET16b (Novagen) and pET26b (Novagen), resulting in strain FSEC-control, which was used as a control strain.

Transformants were selected on Luria-Bertani (LB) medium with 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 60 µg/ml kanamycin.

Example 19

Fermentation with Recombinant *Escherichia coli* Strains in Shake Flasks

Pre-cultures of *Escherichia coli* BL21 (DE3) were grown in glass tubes at 160 rpm and 37° C. in 7 ml of LB medium containing 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 60 µg/ml kanamycin. Exponentially growing precultures were used for inoculation of 500 ml baffled shake flasks that contained 200 ml LB medium supplemented with 50 g/l glucose, 5 g/l $\rm K_2HPO_4$, 80 µg/ml ampicilin and 50 µg/ml kanamycin, which were incubated at 160 rpm and 37° C. After 5 hours, isopropyl $\rm \beta$ -thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added at a final concentration of 1 mM, as an inducer of the T7 promoter that was in front of each of the three genes TAL, 4CL and VST. After an incubation period of 48 hours at 37° C., the cells were harvested and subjected to extraction procedures and analysed for the presence of produced resveratrol.

Example 20

Extraction and Analysis of Resveratrol in Escherichia coli

Extraction and analysis was performed using the methods as described in example 14 and 15.

Results

Strain FSEC-TAL4CLVST and FSEC-control, were cultivated on 50 g/l glucose as described in example 19, and analyzed for their content of intracellular resveratrol accord- 35 ing to example 14 and 15. The HPLC-analysis showed that strain FSEC-TAL4CLVST did contain considerable amounts of a component with a retention time of 3.4 min., which is identical to coumaric acid (FIG. 6). However, the extract did not contain a component that eluted at the same time as trans-resveratrol. Said result, therefore, indicated that the tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL) was active indeed, but did not lead to production of detactable amounts of resveratrol. The lack of resveratrol formation, however, could be the result of; i) a non-functional coumarate-CoA ligase (4CL); ii) a nonfunctional resveratrol synthase (VST); iii) too low levels of coumaric acid, caused by either non-optimal cultivation conditions, or non-optimal expression/activity of TAL, or branching of coumaric acid into other products. To evaluate 50 said hypotheses, the strains were grown on similar media as described in example 19 but now in the presence of 20 mg/l of coumaric acid. The subsequent HPLC-analysis of extracts of FSEC-TAL4CLVST indeed showed a cluster of peaks around the same retention time as trans-resveratrol, which was not 55 observed in extracts of FS-control (FIG. 6). Indeed, the UV absorption spectrum of the peak with a retention time of 5.5 min. was similar to the spectrum of pure trans-resveratrol (FIG. 7), whereas no such spectrum could be obtained for peaks in the control strain. The results, therefore, strongly 60 suggest the presence of an active phenylpropanoid pathway in Escherichia coli, which can lead to production of resveratrol. Most likely the production of resveratrol without addition of coumaric acid can be achieved by cultivating the strains under well-defined growth conditions in batch- and continuous cultures, and/or optimizing the expression/activities of the individual enzymes.

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Example 21

Construction of a Bacterial Vector for Expression of PAL and C4H in *Lactococcus lactis*

The plasmid pSH71 and derivatives thereof, which is used in the following examples, is a bifunctional shuttle vector with multiple origins of replication from Escherichia coli and Lactococcus lactis. With that, the host range specificity traverses Escherichia coli and other species of lactic acid bacteria. Though transformations in *Lactococcus lactis* usually proceed without problems, putative difficult transformations in other species of lactic acid bacteria can, therefore, be overcome by using Escherichia coli as an intermediate host for the construction of recombinant plasmids. The plasmid contains one or more marker genes to allow the microorganism that harbour them to be selected from those which do not. The selection system that is used for Lactococcus lactis is based upon dominant markers, e.g. resistance against erythromycin and chloramphenicol, but systems based upon genes involved in carbohydrate metabolism, peptidases and food grade markers, have also been described. In addition, the plasmid contains promoter- and terminator sequences that allow the expression of the recombinant genes. Suitable promoters are taken from genes of *Lactococcus lactis* e.g. lacA. 25 Furthermore, the plasmid contains suitable unique restriction sites to facilitate the cloning of DNA fragments and subsequent identification of recombinants.

In the examples below the plasmid contains either the erythromycine resistance gene, designated as pSH71-ERY r , or the chloramphenical resistance gene, designated as pSH71-CM r

The gene encoding PAL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3), using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pSH71-ERY^r vector that contains the lacA promoter from *Lactococcus lactis*. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-ERY^r-PAL, contains the gene encoding PAL under the control of the lacA promoter from *Lactococcus lactis*.

The gene encoding C4H, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pSH71-CM^r vector to yield pSH71-CM^r-C4H. The lacA promoter and the gene encoding C4H are reamplified as one fragment by PCR from the plasmid pSH71-CM'-C4H using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the DNA fragment allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into the digested plasmid pSH71-ERY'-PAL. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-ERY'-PAL-C4H, contains the genes encoding PAL and C4H that are each under the control of an individual lacA promoter. The sequence of the genes encoding PAL and C4H is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pSH71-ERY^r-PAL-C4H.

Example 22

Construction of a Bacterial Vector for Expression of TAL in Lactococcus lactis

The gene encoding for TAL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-

URA-TAL (example 6) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pSH71-ERY' vector. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-ERY'-TAL, contains the gene encoding for TAL under the control of the lacA promoter from *Lactococcus lactis*. The sequence of the gene encoding for TAL is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pSH71-ERY'-TAL.

Example 23

Construction of a Bacterial Vector for Expression of 4CL and VST in *Lactococcus lactis*

The gene encoding 4CL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5), using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pSH71-CM^r vector. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-CM^r-4CL, contains the gene encoding for 4CL under the control of the lacA promoter from *Lactobacillus lactis*.

The gene encoding VST, isolated as described in example 25 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested 30 pSH71-ERY' vector. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-ERY'-VST, contains the gene encoding VST under the control of the lacA promoter from Lactococcus lactis. The lacA promoter and the gene encoding VST are reamplified as one fragment by PCR from the plasmid pSH71-ERY'-VST using forward- 35 and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the DNA fragment allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into the digested plasmid pSH71-CM^r-4CL. The resulting plasmid, pSH71-CM^r-4CL-VST, 40 contains the genes encoding 4CL and VST that are each under the control of their individual lacA promoter. The sequence of the genes encoding 4CL and VST is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pSH71-CM^r-4CL-VST.

Example 24

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in Lactococcus lactis

Lactococcus lactis strains are transformed with the vectors 50 described in examples 21, 22 and 23, separately or in combination. The transformation of the bacterial cell is conducted in accordance with methods known in the art, for instance, by using competent cells or by electroporation (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989). Transformants are selected on medium 55 containing the antibiotics erythromycin and chloramphenicol and streak purified on the same medium.

Lactococcus lactis strain MG1363 is transformed separately with the vector pSH71-ERY'-TAL (example 22), yielding the strain FSLL-TAL; with pSH71-ERY'-PAL-C4H (example 21), yielding the strain FSLL-PALC4H and with pSH71-CM'-4CL-VST (example 23), yielding strain FSLL-4CLVST. In addition, Lactococcus lactis strain MG1363 is co-transformed with pSH71-ERY'-TAL (example 22) and pSH71-CM'-4CL-VST (example 23), and the transformed strain is named FSLL-TAL4CLVST. The same strain is also co-transformed with pSH71-ERY'-PAL-C4H (example 21),

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and pSH71-CM $^{\prime}$ -4CL-VST (example 23), resulting in the strain FSLL-PALC4H4CLVST.

Example 25

Fermentation with Recombinant Lactococcus lactis Strains in Fermentors

The recombinant yeast strains can be grown in fermenters operated as batch, fed-batch or chemostat cultures.

Batch and Fed-Batch Cultivations

The microorganism is grown in a baffled bioreactor with a working volume of 1.5 liters under anaerobic, aerobic or microaerobic conditions. All cultures are incubated at 30° C., at 350 rpm. A constant pH of 6.6 is maintained by automatic addition of 10 M KOH. Cells are grown on lactose in defined MS10 medium supplemented with the following components to allow growth under aerobic conditions: MnSO₄ (1.25×10^{-5}) g/l), thiamine (1 mg/l), and DL-6,8-thioctic acid (2.5 mg/l). The lactose concentration is, for example 50 g/l. The bioreactors are inoculated with cells from precultures grown at 30° C. in shake flasks on the medium described above buffered with threefold-higher concentrations of K₂HPO₄ and KH₂PO₄. Anaerobic conditions are ensured by flushing the medium with N₂ (99.998% pure) prior to inoculation and by maintaining a constant flow of 50 ml/min of N₂ through the headspace of the bioreactor during cultivation. The bioreactors used for microaerobic and aerobic cultivation are equipped with polarographic oxygen sensors that are calibrated with air (DOT, 100%) and N₂ (DOT, 0%). Aerobic conditions are obtained by sparging the bioreactor with air at a rate of 1 vvm to ensure that the DOT is more than 80%. During microaerobic experiments the DOT is kept constant 5% by sparging the reactor with gas composed of a mixture of N_2 and atmospheric air, at a rate of 0.25 vvm.

Chemostat Cultures

In chemostat cultures the cells can be grown in, for example, 1-L working-volume Applikon laboratory fermentors at 30° C. and 350 rpm. The dilution rate (D) can be set at different values, e.g. at 0.050 h⁻¹, 0.10 h⁻¹, 0.15 h⁻¹, or 0.20 h⁻¹. The pH is kept constant, e.g at 6.6, by automatic addition of 5 M KOH, using the growth medium described above, supplemented with antifoam (50 μl/l). The concentration of lactose can be set at different values, e.g. is 3.0 g/l 6.0 g/l, 12.0 g/l, 15.0 g/l or 18.0 g/l. The bioreactor is inoculated to an initial biomass concentration of 1 mg/l and the feed pump is turned on at the end of the exponential growth phase.

An anaerobic steady state is obtained by introducing 50 ml/min of N_2 (99.998% pure) into the headspace of the bioreactor. Different anoxic steady states can obtained by sparging the reactor with 250 ml/min of gas composed of N_2 (99.998% pure) and atmospheric air at various ratios. The oxygen electrode is calibrated by sparging the bioreactor with air (100% DOT) and with N_2 (0% DOT).

For all conditions, the gas is sterile filtered before being introduced into the bioreactor. The off gas is led through a condenser cooled to lower than -8° C. and analyzed for its volumetric content of CO_2 and O_2 by means of an acoustic gas analyser.

Cultivations are considered to be in steady state after at least 5 residence times, and if the concentrations of biomass and fermentation end products remain unchanged (less than 5% relative deviation) over the last two residence times.

Example 26

Extraction and Analysis of Resveratrol in *Lactococcus lactis* Extraction and analysis is performed using the methods as described in examples 14 and 15.

Example 27

Construction of a Fungal Vector for Expression of PAL and C4H in Species Belonging to the Genus *Aspergillus*

The plasmid that is used in the following examples, is derived from pARp1 that contains the AMA1 initiating replication sequence from Aspergillus nidulans, which also sustains autonomous plasmid replication in A. niger and A. oryzae (Gems et al., 1991). Moreover, the plasmid is a shuttle vector, containing the replication sequence of Escherichia coli, and the inherent difficult transformations in Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus oryzae can therefore overcome by using Escherichia coli as an intermediate host for the construction of recombinant plasmids. The plasmid contains one or more marker genes to allow the microorganism that harbour them to be selected from those which do not. The selection system can be either based upon dominant markers e.g. resistance against hygromycin B, phleomycin and bleomy- 25 cin, or heterologous markers e.g amino acids and the pyrG gene. In addition the plasmid contains promoter- and terminator sequences that allow the expression of the recombinant genes. Suitable promoters are taken from genes of Aspergillus nidulans e.g. alcA, glaA, amy, niaD, and gpdA. Further- 30 more, the plasmid contains suitable unique restriction sites to facilitate the cloning of DNA fragments and subsequent identification of recombinants.

The plasmid used in the following examples contains the strong constitutive gpdA-promoter and auxotropic markers, 35 all originating from *Aspergillus nidulans*; the plasmid containing the gene methG that is involved in methionine biosynthesis, is designated as pAMA1-MET; the plasmid containing the gene hisA that is involved in histidine biosynthesis, is designated as pAMA1-HIS.

The gene encoding PAL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3), using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene 45 allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pAMA1-MET vector that contains the gpdA promoter from *Aspergillus nidulans*. The resulting plasmid, pAMA1-MET-PAL contains the gene encoding PAL under the control of the gpdA promoter from *Aspergillus nidulans*.

The gene encoding C4H, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-PAL-C4H (example 3) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene 55 allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pAMA1-HIS vector to yield pAMA1-HIS-C4H. The gpdA promoter and the gene encoding C4H are reamplified as one fragment by PCR from the plasmid pAMA1-HIS-C4H using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing 60 suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the DNA fragment allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into the digested plasmid pAMA1-MET-PAL. The resulting plasmid, pAMA1-MET-PAL-C4H, contains the genes encoding PAL and C4H that are 65 each under the control of an individual pgdA promoter from Aspergillus nidulans. The sequence of the genes encoding

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PAL and C4H is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pAMA1-MET-PAL-C4H.

Example 28

Construction of a Fungal Vector for Expression of TAL in Species Belonging to the Genus *Aspergillus*

The gene encoding for TAL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-URA-TAL (example 6) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pAMA1-MET vector. The resulting plasmid, pAMA1-MET-TAL, contains the gene encoding for TAL under the control of the gpdA promoter from *Aspergillus nidulans*. The sequence of the gene encoding for TAL is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pAMA1-MET-TAL.

Example 29

Construction of a Fungal Vector for Expression of 4CL and VST in Species Belonging to the Genus *Aspergillus*

The gene encoding 4CL, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5), using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pAMA1-HIS vector that contains the gpdA promoter from *Aspergillus nidulans*. The resulting plasmid, pAMA1-HIS-4CL contains the gene encoding 4CL under the control of the gpdA promoter from *Aspergillus nidulans*.

The gene encoding VST, isolated as described in example 1, is reamplified by PCR from the plasmid pESC-TRP-4CL-VST (example 5) using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the gene allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into a digested pAMA1-MET vector to yield pAMA1-MET-VST. The gpdA promoter and the gene encoding VST are reamplified as one fragment by PCR from the plasmid pAMA1-MET-VST using forward- and reverse primers, with 5' overhangs containing suitable restriction sites. The introduction of said restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends of the DNA fragment allows ligation of the restricted PCR product into the digested plasmid pAMA1-HIS-4CL. The resulting plasmid, pAMA1-HIS-4CL-VST, contains the genes encoding 4CL and VST that are each under the control of an individual pgdA promoter from Aspergillus nidulans. The sequence of the genes encoding 4CL and VST is verified by sequencing of two different clones of pAMA1-HIS-4CL-VST.

Example 30

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in *Aspergillus niger Aspergillus niger* strains are transformed with the vectors described in examples 27, 28 and 29, separately or in combination. The transformation of the fungal cell is conducted in accordance with methods known in the art, for instance, by electroporation or by conjugation (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989). Transformants are selected on minimal medium lacking methionine and/or histidine.

A strain of *Aspergillus niger* that is auxotrophic for histidine and methionine, for instance, strain FGSC A919 (see http://www.fgsc.net), is transformed separately with the vec-

tor pAMA1-MET-TAL (example 28), yielding the strain FSAN-TAL; with pAMA1-MET-PAL-C4H (example 27), yielding the strain FSAN-PALC4H and with pAMA1-HIS-4CL-VST (example 29), yielding strain FSAN-4CLVST. In addition, Aspergillus niger strain FGSC A919 is co-trans- 5 formed with pAMA1-MET-TAL (example 28) and pAMA1-HIS-4CL-VST (example 29), and the transformed strain is named FSAN-TAL4CLVST. The same strain is also co-transformed with pAMA1-MET-PAL-C4H (example 27), and pAMA1-HIS-4CL-VST (example 29), resulting in the strain 10 FSAN-PALC4H4CLVST.

Example 31

Expression of the Pathway to Resveratrol in Aspergillus 15 orvzae

A strain of Aspergillus oryzae that contains a native set of genes encoding for PAL, C4H and 4CL (Seshime et al., 2005) and that is auxotrophic for methionine, is transformed with the vector pAMA1-MET-VST (example 29), yielding the 20 strain FSAO-VST. The transformation of the fungal cell is conducted in accordance with methods known in the art, for instance, by electroporation or by conjugation (see, e.g., Sambrook et al., 1989). Transformants are selected on minimal medium lacking methionine.

Example 32

Fermentation with Recombinant Strains of Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus oryzae in Fermentors

The recombinant yeast strains can be grown in fermenters operated as batch, fed-batch or chemostat cultures. Batch and Fed-Batch Cultivations

The microorganism is grown in a baffled bioreactor with a working volume of 1.5 liters under aerobic conditions. All 35 cultures are incubated at 30° C., at 500 rpm. A constant pH of 6.0 is maintained by automatic addition of 10 M KOH, and aerobic conditions are obtained by sparging the bioreactor with air at a rate of 1 vvm to ensure that the DOT is more than 80%. Cells are grown on glucose in defined medium consist- 40 ing of the following components to allow growth in batch cultivations: 7.3 g/l (NH₄)₂SO₄, 1.5 g/l KH₂PO₄, 1.0 g/l MgSO₄.7H₂O, 1.0 g/l NaCl, 0.1 g/l CaCl₂.2H₂O, 0.1 ml/l Sigma antifoam, 7.2 mg/l ZnSO₄.7H₂O, 1.3 mg/l CuSO₄.5H₂O, 0.3 mg/l NiCl₂.6H₂O, 3.5 mg/l MnCl₂.4H₂O 45 U.S. Pat. No. 6,521,748 and 6.9 mg/l FeSO₄.7H₂O. The glucose concentration is, for example, 10- 20-, 30-, 40- or 50 g/l. To allow growth in fed-batch cultivations the medium is composed of: 7.3 g/l (NH₄)₂SO₄, 4.0 g/l KH₂PO₄, 1.9 g/l MgSO₄.7H₂O, 1.3 g/l NaCl, 0.10 g/l CaCl₂.2H₂O, 0.1 ml/l Sigma antifoam, 7.2 50 $mg/l \ ZnSO_4.7H_2O, \ 1.3 \ mg/l \ CuSO_4.5H_2O, \ 0.3 \ mg/l$ NiCl₂.6H₂O, 3.5 mg/l MnCl₂.4H₂O and 6.9 mg/l FeSO₄.H₂O in the batch phase. The reactor is then fed with, for example, 285 g/kg glucose and 42 g/kg $(NH_4)_2SO_4$.

Free mycelium from a pre-batch is used for inoculating the 55 batch- and fed-batch cultures. A spore concentration of 2.109 spores/l is used for inoculation of the pre-batch culture at pH 2.5. Spores are obtained by propagation of freeze-dried spores onto 29 g rice to which the following components are added: 6 ml 15 g/l sucrose, 2.3 g/l (NH₄)₂SO₄, 1.0 g/l 60 KH₂PO₄, 0.5 g/l MgSO₄.7H₂O, 0.50 g/l NaCl, 14.3 mg/l $ZnSO_4.7H_2O$, 2.5 mg/ $CuSO_4.5H_2O$, 0.50 mg/l NiCl₂.6H₂O, and 13.8 mg/l FeSO₄.7H₂O. The spores are propagated at 30° C. for 7-14 days to yield a black layer of spores on the rice grains and are harvested by adding 100 ml of 0.1% Tween 20 in sterile water. For all conditions, the gas is sterile filtered before being introduced into the bioreactor. The off gas is led

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through a condenser cooled to lower than -8° C. and analyzed for its volumetric content of CO2 and O2 by means of an acoustic gas analyser.

Chemostat Cultures

In chemostat cultures the cells can be grown in, for example, 1.5-L working-volume Biostat B laboratory fermentors at 30° C. and 500 rpm. A constant pH of 6.0 is maintained by automatic addition of 10 M KOH, and aerobic conditions are obtained by sparging the bioreactor with air at a rate of 1 vvm to ensure that the DOT is more than 80%. The dilution rate (D) can be set at different values, e.g. at 0.050 h^{-1} , 0.10 h^{-1} , 0.15 h^{-1} , or 0.20 h^{-1} . The pH is kept constant, e.g at 6.6, by automatic addition of 10 M KOH, using a minimal growth medium with the following components: 2.5 g/l (NH₄)₂SO₄, 0.75 g/l KH₂PO₄, 1.0 g/l MgSO₄.7H₂O, 1.0 g/l NaCl, 0.1 g/l CaCl₂.2H₂O, 0.1 ml/l Sigma antifoam, 7.2 $mg/1 \text{ ZnSO}_4.7H_2O$, 1.3 $mg/1 \text{ CuSO}_4.5H_2O$, 0.3 mg/1NiCl₂.6H₂O, 3.5 mg/l MnCl₂.4H₂O and 6.9 mg/l FeSO₄.7H₂O. The concentration of glucose can be set at different values, e.g. is 3.0 g/l 6.0 g/l, 12.0 g/l, 15.0 g/l or 18.0 g/l. The bioreactor is inoculated with free mycelium from a pre-batch culture as described above, and the feed pump is turned on at the end of the exponential growth phase.

For all conditions, the gas is sterile filtered before being introduced into the bioreactor. The off gas is led through a condenser cooled to lower than -8° C. and analyzed for its volumetric content of CO₂ and O₂ by means of an acoustic gas analyser.

Cultivations are considered to be in steady state after at least 5 residence times, and if the concentrations of biomass glucose and composition of the off-gas remain unchanged (less than 5% relative deviation) over the last two residence times.

Example 33

Extraction and Analysis of Resveratrol in Aspergillus niger and Aspergillus oryzae

Extraction and analysis is performed using the methods as described in examples 14 and 15.

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Patent no. US-A-2004059103

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 - The following is a summary of the nucleotide and amino 65 acid sequences appearing herein:
 - SEQ ID NO: 1 is a nucleotide sequence from Arabidopsis thaliana encoding a phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL2).

- SEQ ID NO: 2 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1
- SEQ ID NO: 3 is a nucleotide sequence from *Arabidopsis* thaliana encoding a cinnamate 4-hydroxylase (C4H).
- SEQ ID NO: 4 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID 5 NO: 3.
- SEQ ID NO: 5 is a nucleotide sequence from *Arabidopsis thaliana* encoding a 4-coumarate:CoenzymeA ligase (4CL1).
- SEQ ID NO: 6 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID 10 NO: 5.
- SEQ ID NO: 7 is a nucleotide sequence from *Rheum tataricum* encoding a resveratrol synthase (VST).
- SEQ ID NO: 8 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 7.
- SEQ ID NO: 9 is a nucleotide sequence from *Rheum tataricum* encoding a resveratrol synthase (VST), which is codon-optimized for expression in *S. cerevisiae*.
- SEQ ID NO: 10 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 9.
- SEQ ID NO: 11 is a nucleotide sequence from *Rhodobacter* capsulatus encoding a tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL).

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- SEQ ID NO: 12 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 11.
- SEQ ID NO: 13 is a nucleotide sequence from *Rhodobacter* capsulatus encoding a tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL), which is codon-optimized for expression in *S. cerevisiae*.
- SEQ ID NO: 14 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 13.
- SEQ ID NO: 15 is a nucleotide sequence from *S. cerevisiae* encoding a NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase (CPR1).
- SEQ ID NO: 16 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 15.
- SEQ ID NO: 17 is a nucleotide sequence from *Arabidopsis thalianus* encoding a NADPH:cytochrome P450 reductase (AR2).
- 15 SEQ ID NO: 18 is the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 17.
 - SEQ ID NOs 19-32 are primer sequences appearing in Table 1, Example 1.
 - SEQ ID NOs 33-34 are primer sequences appearing in Example 16.
 - SEQ ID NOs 35-38 are primer sequences appearing in Example 17

SEQUENCE LISTING

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Pro Leu Ser Tyr Ile Ala Gly Leu Leu Thr Gly Arg Pro Asn Ser Lys

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Val	Gln	Ser	Ala	Glu 485	Gln	His	Asn	Gln	Asp 490	Val	Asn	Ser	Leu	Gly 495	Leu
Ile	Ser	Ser	Arg 500	Lys	Thr	Ser	Glu	Ala 505	Val	Asp	Ile	Leu	Lys 510	Leu	Met
Ser	Thr	Thr 515	Phe	Leu	Val	Gly	Ile 520	Cys	Gln	Ala	Val	Asp 525	Leu	Arg	His
Leu	Glu 530	Glu	Asn	Leu	Arg	Gln 535	Thr	Val	Lys	Asn	Thr 540	Val	Ser	Gln	Val
Ala 545	Lys	Lys	Val	Leu	Thr 550	Thr	Gly	Ile	Asn	Gly 555	Glu	Leu	His	Pro	Ser 560
Arg	Phe	Сув	Glu	Lув 565	Asp	Leu	Leu	Lys	Val 570	Val	Asp	Arg	Glu	Gln 575	Val
Phe	Thr	Tyr	Val 580	Asp	Asp	Pro	Cys	Ser 585	Ala	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Leu 590	Met	Gln
Arg	Leu	Arg 595	Gln	Val	Ile	Val	Asp 600	His	Ala	Leu	Ser	Asn 605	Gly	Glu	Thr
Glu	Lys 610	Asn	Ala	Val	Thr	Ser 615	Ile	Phe	Gln	Lys	Ile 620	Gly	Ala	Phe	Glu
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60

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Ala Tyr Gly Asn Gly Thr Ala Pro Ile Pro Asn Arg Ile Lys Glu Cys Arg Ser Tyr Pro Leu Tyr Arg Phe Val Arg Glu Glu Leu Gly Thr Lys 665 Leu Leu Thr Gly Glu Lys Val Val Ser Pro Gly Glu Glu Phe Asp Lys Val Phe Thr Ala Met Cys Glu Gly Lys Leu Ile Asp Pro Leu Met Asp Cys Leu Lys Glu Trp Asn Gly Ala Pro Ile Pro Ile Cys

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<212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM:	Arabidopsis	thaliana		
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Leu Pro Pro Gly 35	Pro Ile Pro	Ile Pro Ile 40	Phe Gly Asn 45	Trp Leu Gln
Val Gly Asp Asp 50	Leu Asn His 55	Arg Asn Leu	Val Asp Tyr 60	Ala Lys Lys
Phe Gly Asp Leu 65	Phe Leu Leu 70	Arg Met Gly	Gln Arg Asn 75	Leu Val Val 80
Val Ser Ser Pro	Asp Leu Thr 85	Lys Glu Val 90	Leu Leu Thr	Gln Gly Val 95
Glu Phe Gly Ser 100	Arg Thr Arg	Asn Val Val 105	Phe Asp Ile	Phe Thr Gly 110
Lys Gly Gln Asp 115	Met Val Phe	Thr Val Tyr 120	Gly Glu His 125	Trp Arg Lys
Met Arg Arg Ile 130	Met Thr Val	Pro Phe Phe	Thr Asn Lys 140	Val Val Gln
Gln Asn Arg Glu 145	Gly Trp Glu 150	Phe Glu Ala	Ala Ser Val 155	Val Glu Asp 160
Val Lys Lys Asn	Pro Asp Ser 165	Ala Thr Lys 170	Gly Ile Val	Leu Arg Lys 175
Arg Leu Gln Leu 180	Met Met Tyr	Asn Asn Met 185	Phe Arg Ile	Met Phe Asp 190
Arg Arg Phe Glu 195	Ser Glu Asp	Asp Pro Leu 200	Phe Leu Arg 205	Leu Lys Ala
Leu Asn Gly Glu 210	Arg Ser Arg 215	Leu Ala Gln	Ser Phe Glu 220	Tyr Asn Tyr
Gly Asp Phe Ile 225	Pro Ile Leu 230	Arg Pro Phe	Leu Arg Gly 235	Tyr Leu Lys 240
Ile Cys Gln Asp	Val Lys Asp 245	Arg Arg Ile 250	Ala Leu Phe	Lys Lys Tyr 255
Phe Val Asp Glu 260	Arg Lys Gln	Ile Ala Ser 265	Ser Lys Pro	Thr Gly Ser 270
Glu Gly Leu Lys 275	Cys Ala Ile	Asp His Ile 280	Leu Glu Ala 285	Glu Gln Lys
Gly Glu Ile Asn 290	Glu Asp Asn 295	Val Leu Tyr	Ile Val Glu 300	Asn Ile Asn
Val Ala Ala Ile 305	Glu Thr Thr 310	Leu Trp Ser	Ile Glu Trp 315	Gly Ile Ala 320
Glu Leu Val Asn	His Pro Glu 325	Ile Gln Ser 330	Lys Leu Arg	Asn Glu Leu 335
Asp Thr Val Leu 340	Gly Pro Gly	Val Gln Val 345	Thr Glu Pro	Asp Leu His 350
Lys Leu Pro Tyr 355	Leu Gln Ala	Val Val Lys 360	Glu Thr Leu 365	Arg Leu Arg
Met Ala Ile Pro 370	Leu Leu Val 375	Pro His Met	Asn Leu His 380	Asp Ala Lys
Leu Ala Gly Tyr 385	Asp Ile Pro 390	Ala Glu Ser	Lys Ile Leu 395	Val Asn Ala 400

37 38

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Trp Trp Leu Ala Asn Asn Pro Asn Ser Trp Lys Lys Pro Glu Glu Phe Arg Pro Glu Arg Phe Phe Glu Glu Glu Ser His Val Glu Ala Asn Gly Asn Asp Phe Arg Tyr Val Pro Phe Gly Val Gly Arg Arg Ser Cys Pro Gly Ile Ile Leu Ala Leu Pro Ile Leu Gly Ile Thr Ile Gly Arg Met 455 Val Gln Asn Phe Glu Leu Leu Pro Pro Pro Gly Gln Ser Lys Val Asp Thr Ser Glu Lys Gly Gly Gln Phe Ser Leu His Ile Leu Asn His Ser Ile Ile Val Met Lys Pro Arg Asn Cys

<210> SEQ ID NO 5 <211> LENGTH: 1686 <212> TYPE: DNA

<213 > ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

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gttgcatttg tggtgaaatc gaaggattcg gagttatcag aagatgatgt gaagcaattc gtgtcgaaac aggttgtgtt ttacaagaga atcaacaaag tgttcttcac tgaatccatt cctaaagctc catcagggaa gatattgagg aaagatctga gggcaaaact agcaaatgga 1686 ttgtga <210> SEQ ID NO 6 <211> LENGTH: 561 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana <400> SEQUENCE: 6 Met Ala Pro Gln Glu Gln Ala Val Ser Gln Val Met Glu Lys Gln Ser Asn Asn Asn Ser Asp Val Ile Phe Arg Ser Lys Leu Pro Asp Ile Tyr Ile Pro Asn His Leu Ser Leu His Asp Tyr Ile Phe Gln Asn Ile Ser Glu Phe Ala Thr Lys Pro Cys Leu Ile Asn Gly Pro Thr Gly His Val Tyr Thr Tyr Ser Asp Val His Val Ile Ser Arg Gln Ile Ala Ala Asn Phe His Lys Leu Gly Val Asn Gln Asn Asp Val Val Met Leu Leu Leu Pro Asn Cys Pro Glu Phe Val Leu Ser Phe Leu Ala Ala Ser Phe 105 Arg Gly Ala Thr Ala Thr Ala Ala Asn Pro Phe Phe Thr Pro Ala Glu 120 Ile Ala Lys Gln Ala Lys Ala Ser Asn Thr Lys Leu Ile Ile Thr Glu 135 Ala Arg Tyr Val Asp Lys Ile Lys Pro Leu Gln Asn Asp Asp Gly Val Val Ile Val Cys Ile Asp Asp Asn Glu Ser Val Pro Ile Pro Glu Gly 170 Cys Leu Arg Phe Thr Glu Leu Thr Gln Ser Thr Thr Glu Ala Ser Glu Val Ile Asp Ser Val Glu Ile Ser Pro Asp Asp Val Val Ala Leu Pro Tyr Ser Ser Gly Thr Thr Gly Leu Pro Lys Gly Val Met Leu Thr His Lys Gly Leu Val Thr Ser Val Ala Gln Gln Val Asp Gly Glu Asn Pro Asn Leu Tyr Phe His Ser Asp Asp Val Ile Leu Cys Val Leu Pro Met Phe His Ile Tyr Ala Leu Asn Ser Ile Met Leu Cys Gly Leu Arg Val 265 Gly Ala Ala Ile Leu Ile Met Pro Lys Phe Glu Ile Asn Leu Leu 280 Glu Leu Ile Gln Arg Cys Lys Val Thr Val Ala Pro Met Val Pro Pro Ile Val Leu Ala Ile Ala Lys Ser Ser Glu Thr Glu Lys Tyr Asp Leu 310 315 Ser Ser Ile Arg Val Val Lys Ser Gly Ala Ala Pro Leu Gly Lys Glu

330

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Leu Thr His 50	Leu Lys	Gln Lys 55	Phe Ly	ys Arg		Cys	Glu I	Jys	Ser	Met	
Ile Glu Lys 65	Arg Tyr	Leu His 70	Leu Th		Glu 75	Ile	Leu I	Jys	Glu	Asn 80	
Pro Asn Ile	Ala Ser 85	Phe Glu	Ala Pr	ro Ser 90	Leu	Asp	Val A	Arg	His 95	Asn	
Ile Gln Val	Lys Glu 100	Val Val	Leu Le		Lys	Glu		Ala L10	Leu	Lys	
Ala Ile Asn 115	Glu Trp	Gly Gln	Pro Ly 120	ys Ser	Lys		Thr <i>F</i> 125	Arg	Leu	Ile	
Val Cys Cys 130	Ile Ala	Gly Val 135	Asp Me	et Pro		Ala 140	Asp T	ľyr	Gln	Leu	
Thr Lys Leu 145	Leu Gly	Leu Gln 150	Leu Se		Lys 155	Arg	Phe M	1et	Phe	Tyr 160	
His Leu Gly	Cys Tyr 165	Ala Gly	Gly Th	nr Val 170	Leu	Arg	Leu A	Ala	Lys 175	Asp	
Ile Ala Glu	Asn Asn 180	Lys Glu	Ala Ar 18	-	Leu	Ile		Arg L90	Ser	Glu	
Met Thr Pro 195	_	Phe Arg	Gly Pr 200	ro Ser	Glu		His] 205	le	Asp	Ser	
Met Val Gly 210	Gln Ala	Ile Phe 215	Gly As	ab GlÀ		Ala 220	Ala V	/al	Ile	Val	
Gly Ala Asn 225	Pro Asp	Leu Ser 230	Ile Gl	_	Pro 235	Ile	Phe C	lu	Leu	Ile 240	
Ser Thr Ser	Gln Thr 245	Ile Ile	Pro Gl	lu Ser 250	Asp	Gly	Ala I	le	Glu 255	Gly	
His Leu Leu	Glu Val 260	Gly Leu		ne Gln 65	Leu	Tyr		hr 270	Val	Pro	
Ser Leu Ile 275	Ser Asn	Cys Ile	Glu Th	nr Cys	Leu		Lys <i>I</i> 285	Ala	Phe	Thr	
Pro Leu Asn 290	Ile Ser	Asp Trp 295	Asn Se	er Leu		Trp 300	Ile A	Ala	His	Pro	

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305
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Lys Glu Lys Leu Lys Ala Thr Arg Gln Val Leu Asn Asp Tyr Gly Asn
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Rheum tataricum
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Ile (Glu	Lys	Arg	Tyr	Leu 70	His	Leu	Thr	Glu	Glu 75	Ile	Leu	Lys	Glu	Asn 80
Pro I	Asn	Ile	Ala	Ser 85	Phe	Glu	Ala	Pro	Ser 90	Leu	Asp	Val	Arg	His 95	Asn
Ile	Gln	Val	Lys 100	Glu	Val	Val	Leu	Leu 105	Gly	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ala 110	Leu	ГЛа
Ala	Ile	Asn 115	Glu	Trp	Gly	Gln	Pro 120	Lys	Ser	Lys	Ile	Thr 125	Arg	Leu	Ile
Val (Сув 130	Сув	Ile	Ala	Gly	Val 135	Asp	Met	Pro	Gly	Ala 140	Asp	Tyr	Gln	Leu
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His 1	Leu	Gly	CÀa	Tyr 165	Ala	Gly	Gly	Thr	Val 170	Leu	Arg	Leu	Ala	Lys 175	Asp
Ile	Ala	Glu	Asn 180	Asn	rys	Glu	Ala	Arg 185	Val	Leu	Ile	Val	Arg 190	Ser	Glu
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Val :	Leu 370	Phe	Gly	Phe	Gly	Pro 375	Gly	Val	Thr	Val	Glu 380	Thr	Val	Val	Leu
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                                                                     960
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                                                                    1440
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                                                                    1500
cccgggcttc gcgccgacag accgcttgcc gggcatatcg aagcggtggc acagggtctg
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cgtcatccct ccgccgccgc cgatcccccg gcatga
                                                                    1596
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<210> SEQ ID NO 12

<400> SEQUENCE: 12

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1 10 15

Ala Leu Thr Leu Val Gln Cys Glu Ala Ile Ala Thr His Arg Ser Arg 20 25 30

Ile Ser Val Thr Pro Ala Leu Arg Glu Arg Cys Ala Arg Ala His Ala 35 40 45

Arg Leu Glu His Ala Ile Ala Glu Gln Arg His Ile Tyr Gly Ile Thr

Thr Gly Phe Gly Pro Leu Ala Asn Arg Leu Ile Gly Ala Asp Gln Gly

Ala Glu Leu Gln Gln Asn Leu Ile Tyr His Leu Ala Thr Gly Val Gly

85

90

9!

<211> LENGTH: 531

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Rhodobacter capsulatus

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Asn	Ser	Ile 115	Leu	Gln	Gly	Ala	Ser 120	Gly	Ala	Ser	Pro	Glu 125	Thr	Ile	Asp
Arg	Ile 130	Val	Ala	Val	Leu	Asn 135	Ala	Gly	Phe	Ala	Pro 140	Glu	Val	Pro	Ala
Gln 145	Gly	Thr	Val	Gly	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asp	Leu	Thr 155	Pro	Leu	Ala	His	Met 160
Val	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gln 165	Gly	Arg	Gly	Arg	Met 170	Ile	Asp	Pro	Ser	Gly 175	Arg
Val	Gln	Glu	Ala 180	Gly	Ala	Val	Met	Asp 185	Arg	Leu	Cys	Gly	Gly 190	Pro	Leu
Thr	Leu	Ala 195	Ala	Arg	Asp	Gly	Leu 200	Ala	Leu	Val	Asn	Gly 205	Thr	Ser	Ala
Met	Thr 210	Ala	Ile	Ala	Ala	Leu 215	Thr	Gly	Val	Glu	Ala 220	Ala	Arg	Ala	Ile
Asp 225	Ala	Ala	Leu	Arg	His 230	Ser	Ala	Val	Leu	Met 235	Glu	Val	Leu	Ser	Gly 240
His	Ala	Glu	Ala	Trp 245	His	Pro	Ala	Phe	Ala 250	Glu	Leu	Arg	Pro	His 255	Pro
Gly	Gln	Leu	Arg 260	Ala	Thr	Glu	Arg	Leu 265	Ala	Gln	Ala	Leu	Asp 270	Gly	Ala
Gly	Arg	Val 275	CÀa	Arg	Thr	Leu	Thr 280	Ala	Ala	Arg	Arg	Leu 285	Thr	Ala	Ala
Asp	Leu 290	Arg	Pro	Glu	Asp	His 295	Pro	Ala	Gln	Asp	Ala 300	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Arg
Val 305	Val	Pro	Gln	Leu	Val 310	Gly	Ala	Val	Trp	Asp 315	Thr	Leu	Asp	Trp	His 320
Asp	Arg	Val	Val	Thr 325	Cys	Glu	Leu	Asn	Ser 330	Val	Thr	Asp	Asn	Pro 335	Ile
Phe	Pro	Glu	Gly 340	Cys	Ala	Val	Pro	Ala 345	Leu	His	Gly	Gly	Asn 350	Phe	Met
Gly	Val	His 355	Val	Ala	Leu	Ala	Ser 360	Asp	Ala	Leu	Asn	Ala 365	Ala	Leu	Val
Thr	Leu 370	Ala	Gly	Leu	Val	Glu 375	Arg	Gln	Ile	Ala	Arg 380	Leu	Thr	Asp	Glu
Lys 385	Leu	Asn	Lys		Leu 390		Ala	Phe		His 395		Gly	Gln		Gly 400
Leu	Gln	Ser	Gly	Phe 405	Met	Gly	Ala	Gln	Val 410	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ala	Leu 415	Leu
Ala	Glu	Met	Arg 420	Ala	Asn	Ala	Thr	Pro 425	Val	Ser	Val	Gln	Ser 430	Leu	Ser
Thr	Asn	Gly 435	Ala	Asn	Gln	Asp	Val 440	Val	Ser	Met	Gly	Thr 445	Ile	Ala	Ala
Arg	Arg 450	Ala	Arg	Ala	Gln	Leu 455	Leu	Pro	Leu	Ser	Gln 460	Ile	Gln	Ala	Ile
Leu 465	Ala	Leu	Ala	Leu	Ala 470	Gln	Ala	Met	Asp	Leu 475	Leu	Asp	Asp	Pro	Glu 480
Gly	Gln	Ala	Gly	Trp 485	Ser	Leu	Thr	Ala	Arg 490	Asp	Leu	Arg	Asp	Arg 495	Ile
Arg	Ala	Val	Ser 500	Pro	Gly	Leu	Arg	Ala 505	Asp	Arg	Pro	Leu	Ala 510	Gly	His
Ile	Glu	Ala	Val	Ala	Gln	Gly	Leu	Arg	His	Pro	Ser	Ala	Ala	Ala	Asp

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515 520 525

Pro Pro Ala

<210> SEQ ID NO 13 <211> LENGTH: 1596 <212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Rhodobacter capsulatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 13

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<210> SEQ ID NO 14

<211> LENGTH: 531

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213 > ORGANISM: Rhodobacter capsulatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

Met Thr Leu Gln Ser Gln Thr Ala Lys Asp Cys Leu Ala Leu Asp Gly 1 5 10 15

Ala Leu Thr Leu Val Gln Cys Glu Ala Ile Ala Thr His Arg Ser Arg

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			20					25					30		
Ile	Ser	Val 35	Thr	Pro	Ala	Leu	Arg 40	Glu	Arg	Cys	Ala	Arg 45	Ala	His	Ala
Arg	Leu 50	Glu	His	Ala	Ile	Ala 55	Glu	Gln	Arg	His	Ile 60	Tyr	Gly	Ile	Thr
Thr 65	Gly	Phe	Gly	Pro	Leu 70	Ala	Asn	Arg	Leu	Ile 75	Gly	Ala	Asp	Gln	Gly 80
Ala	Glu	Leu	Gln	Gln 85	Asn	Leu	Ile	Tyr	His 90	Leu	Ala	Thr	Gly	Val 95	Gly
Pro	Lys	Leu	Ser 100	Trp	Ala	Glu	Ala	Arg 105	Ala	Leu	Met	Leu	Ala 110	Arg	Leu
Asn	Ser	Ile 115	Leu	Gln	Gly	Ala	Ser 120	Gly	Ala	Ser	Pro	Glu 125	Thr	Ile	Asp
Arg	Ile 130	Val	Ala	Val	Leu	Asn 135	Ala	Gly	Phe	Ala	Pro 140	Glu	Val	Pro	Ala
Gln 145	Gly	Thr	Val	Gly	Ala 150	Ser	Gly	Asp	Leu	Thr 155	Pro	Leu	Ala	His	Met 160
Val	Leu	Ala	Leu	Gln 165	Gly	Arg	Gly	Arg	Met 170	Ile	Asp	Pro	Ser	Gly 175	Arg
Val	Gln	Glu	Ala 180	Gly	Ala	Val	Met	Asp 185	Arg	Leu	CAa	Gly	Gly 190	Pro	Leu
Thr	Leu	Ala 195	Ala	Arg	Asp	Gly	Leu 200	Ala	Leu	Val	Asn	Gly 205	Thr	Ser	Ala
Met	Thr 210	Ala	Ile	Ala	Ala	Leu 215	Thr	Gly	Val	Glu	Ala 220	Ala	Arg	Ala	Ile
Asp 225	Ala	Ala	Leu	Arg	His 230	Ser	Ala	Val	Leu	Met 235	Glu	Val	Leu	Ser	Gly 240
His	Ala	Glu	Ala	Trp 245	His	Pro	Ala	Phe	Ala 250	Glu	Leu	Arg	Pro	His 255	Pro
Gly	Gln	Leu	Arg 260	Ala	Thr	Glu	Arg	Leu 265	Ala	Gln	Ala	Leu	Asp 270	Gly	Ala
Gly	Arg	Val 275	Сув	Arg	Thr	Leu	Thr 280	Ala	Ala	Arg	Arg	Leu 285	Thr	Ala	Ala
Asp	Leu 290	Arg	Pro	Glu	Asp	His 295	Pro	Ala	Gln	Asp	Ala 300	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Arg
Val 305	Val	Pro	Gln		Val 310		Ala	Val		Asp 315		Leu	Asp		His 320
Asp	Arg	Val	Val	Thr 325	CAa	Glu	Leu	Asn	Ser 330	Val	Thr	Asp	Asn	Pro 335	Ile
Phe	Pro	Glu	Gly 340	CAa	Ala	Val	Pro	Ala 345	Leu	His	Gly	Gly	Asn 350	Phe	Met
Gly	Val	His 355	Val	Ala	Leu	Ala	Ser 360	Asp	Ala	Leu	Asn	Ala 365	Ala	Leu	Val
Thr	Leu 370	Ala	Gly	Leu	Val	Glu 375	Arg	Gln	Ile	Ala	Arg 380	Leu	Thr	Asp	Glu
185 385	Leu	Asn	Lys	Gly	Leu 390	Pro	Ala	Phe	Leu	His 395	Gly	Gly	Gln	Ala	Gly 400
Leu	Gln	Ser	Gly	Phe 405	Met	Gly	Ala	Gln	Val 410	Thr	Ala	Thr	Ala	Leu 415	Leu
Ala	Glu	Met	Arg 420	Ala	Asn	Ala	Thr	Pro 425	Val	Ser	Val	Gln	Ser 430	Leu	Ser
Thr	Asn	Gly 435	Ala	Asn	Gln	Asp	Val	Val	Ser	Met	Gly	Thr 445	Ile	Ala	Ala

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Leu Ala Leu Ala Leu Ala Gln Ala Met Asp Leu Leu Asp Asp Pro Glu 465 470 475 480

Gly Gln Ala Gly Trp Ser Leu Thr Ala Arg Asp Leu Arg Asp Arg Ile 485 490 495

Arg Ala Val Ser Pro Gly Leu Arg Ala Asp Arg Pro Leu Ala Gly His 500 510

Ile Glu Ala Val Ala Gln Gly Leu Arg His Pro Ser Ala Ala Asp 515 520 525

Pro Pro Ala 530

<210> SEQ ID NO 15

<211> LENGTH: 2076 <212> TYPE: DNA

<213 > ORGANISM: Saccharomyces cerevisiae

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

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<210> SEQ ID NO 16 <211> LENGTH: 691 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Saccharomyces cerevisiae							
<400> SEQUENCE: 16							
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Val Leu Ala Val Leu Leu Tyr Val Lys Arg Asn Ser Ile Lys Glu Leu 20 25 30							
Leu Met Ser Asp Asp Gly Asp Ile Thr Ala Val Ser Ser Gly Asn Arg 35 40 45							
Asp Ile Ala Gln Val Val Thr Glu Asn Asn Lys Asn Tyr Leu Val Leu 50 55 60							
Tyr Ala Ser Gln Thr Gly Thr Ala Glu Asp Tyr Ala Lys Lys Phe Ser 65 70 75 80							
Lys Glu Leu Val Ala Lys Phe Asn Leu Asn Val Met Cys Ala Asp Val 85 90 95							
Glu Asn Tyr Asp Phe Glu Ser Leu Asn Asp Val Pro Val Ile Val Ser							
Ile Phe Ile Ser Thr Tyr Gly Glu Gly Asp Phe Pro Asp Gly Ala Val							
Asn Phe Glu Asp Phe Ile Cys Asn Ala Glu Ala Gly Ala Leu Ser Asn 130 135 140							
Leu Arg Tyr Asn Met Phe Gly Leu Gly Asn Ser Thr Tyr Glu Phe Phe 145 150 155 160							
Asn Gly Ala Ala Lys Lys Ala Glu Lys His Leu Ser Ala Ala Gly Ala 165 170 175							
Ile Arg Leu Gly Lys Leu Gly Glu Ala Asp Asp Gly Ala Gly Thr Thr 180 185 190							
Asp Glu Asp Tyr Met Ala Trp Lys Asp Ser Ile Leu Glu Val Leu Lys 195 200 205							
Asp Glu Leu His Leu Asp Glu Gln Glu Ala Lys Phe Thr Ser Gln Phe							
210 215 220 Gln Tyr Thr Val Leu Asn Glu Ile Thr Asp Ser Met Ser Leu Gly Glu							
225 230 235 240 Pro Sar Ala Hig Tyr Leu Pro Sar Hig Gln Leu Agn Arg Agn Ala Agn							
Pro Ser Ala His Tyr Leu Pro Ser His Gln Leu Asn Arg Asn Ala Asp 245 250 255							
Gly Ile Gln Leu Gly Pro Phe Asp Leu Ser Gln Pro Tyr Ile Ala Pro 260 265 270							

Ile Val Lys Ser Arg Glu Leu Phe Ser Ser Asn Asp Arg Asn Cys Ile 275 280 285

His Ser Glu Phe Asp Leu Ser Gly Ser Asn Ile Lys Tyr Ser Thr Gly 295 Asp His Leu Ala Val Trp Pro Ser Asn Pro Leu Glu Lys Val Glu Gln Phe Leu Ser Ile Phe Asn Leu Asp Pro Glu Thr Ile Phe Asp Leu Lys Pro Leu Asp Pro Thr Val Lys Val Pro Phe Pro Thr Pro Thr Thr Ile Gly Ala Ala Ile Lys His Tyr Leu Glu Ile Thr Gly Pro Val Ser Arg Gln Leu Phe Ser Ser Leu Ile Gln Phe Ala Pro Asn Ala Asp Val Lys Glu Lys Leu Thr Leu Leu Ser Lys Asp Lys Asp Gln Phe Ala Val Glu Ile Thr Ser Lys Tyr Phe Asn Ile Ala Asp Ala Leu Lys Tyr Leu Ser 410 Asp Gly Ala Lys Trp Asp Thr Val Pro Met Gln Phe Leu Val Glu Ser 425 Val Pro Gln Met Thr Pro Arg Tyr Tyr Ser Ile Ser Ser Ser Leu 440 Ser Glu Lys Gln Thr Val His Val Thr Ser Ile Val Glu Asn Phe Pro 455 Asn Pro Glu Leu Pro Asp Ala Pro Pro Val Val Gly Val Thr Thr Asn Leu Leu Arg Asn Ile Gln Leu Ala Gln Asn Asn Val Asn Ile Ala Glu 490 Thr Asn Leu Pro Val His Tyr Asp Leu Asn Gly Pro Arg Lys Leu Phe Ala Asn Tyr Lys Leu Pro Val His Val Arg Arg Ser Asn Phe Arg Leu 520 Pro Ser Asn Pro Ser Thr Pro Val Ile Met Ile Gly Pro Gly Thr Gly 535 Val Ala Pro Phe Arg Gly Phe Ile Arg Glu Arg Val Ala Phe Leu Glu Ser Gln Lys Lys Gly Gly Asn Asn Val Ser Leu Gly Lys His Ile Leu Phe Tyr Gly Ser Arg Asn Thr Asp Asp Phe Leu Tyr Gln Asp Glu Trp Pro Glu Tyr Ala Lys Lys Leu Asp Gly Ser Phe Glu Met Val Val Ala His Ser Arg Leu Pro Asn Thr Lys Lys Val Tyr Val Gln Asp Lys Leu Lys Asp Tyr Glu Asp Gln Val Phe Glu Met Ile Asn Asn Gly Ala Phe 630 635 Ile Tyr Val Cys Gly Asp Ala Lys Gly Met Ala Lys Gly Val Ser Thr Ala Leu Val Gly Ile Leu Ser Arg Gly Lys Ser Ile Thr Thr Asp Glu Ala Thr Glu Leu Ile Lys Met Leu Lys Thr Ser Gly Arg Tyr Gln Glu 680 Asp Val Trp

63 64

<210> SEQ ID NO 17 <211> LENGTH: 2136 <212> TYPE: DNA <213> ORGANISM: Arabidopsis thaliana

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

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The invention claimed is:

- 1. A method for producing resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof comprising:
 - a) cultivating a recombinant micro-organism comprising 30 an engineered operative metabolic pathway producing resveratrol or an oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof in a culture media comprising a carbon substrate from which the micro-organism can produce resveratrol, wherein the culture media does not 35 require an external source of coumaric acid, and wherein the operative metabolic pathway produces:
 - i) 4-coumaric acid from L-phenylalanine catalysed by a phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) and a cinnamate 4-hydroxylase (C4H) expressed in the micro-organism or from tyrosine catalysed by a phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) or a tyrosine ammonia lyase (TAL) expressed in said micro-organism; and
 - ii) 4-coumaroyl-CoA from 4-coumaric acid catalysed by a 4-coumarate-CoA ligase (4CL) expressed in said 45 micro-organism; and
 - iii) resveratrol is produced from the 4-coumaroyl-CoA by a resveratrol synthase expressed in the micro-organism; and
 - b) recovering the resveratrol or the oligomeric or glycosid- 50 ically-bound derivative thereof from the culture media.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the micro-organism is fungi.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the fungus is yeast.
- **4**. The method of claim **3**, wherein the yeast is from the genus *Saccharomyces*.
- **5**. The method of claim **1**, wherein the carbon substrate is a fermentable carbon substrate.
- **6**. The method of claim **5**, wherein the fermentable carbon substrate is monosaccharides, oligosaccharides or polysaccharides.
- 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the fermentable carbon substrate is glucose, fructose, galactose, xylose, arabinose, mannose, sucrose, lactose, erythrose, threose or ribose.
- **8**. The method of claim **1**, wherein the carbon substrate is a non-fermentable carbon substrate.
- **9**. The method of claim **8**, wherein the non-fermentable carbon substrate is ethanol, acetate, glycerol and lactate.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the resveratrol or the oligomeric or glycosidically-bound derivative thereof recovered from the culture media comprises a nutraceutical in a dairy product or a beverage.
- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein at least 0.44-0.53 ug of resveratrol per gram dry weight of the recombinant microorganism is produced.

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